



THE  
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RENOWNED 14  
HISTORY  
OF  
VALENTINE  
AND  
ORSOON,

The Two SONS of the  
Emperor of *Greece.*

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Newly Corrected and Amended, and Adorned with Cuts.

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*Valentine and Orson.*

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CHAP. I.

*How King Pepin banished his Queen Bertha; and how he gave his Sister Bellitant in Marriage to Alexander, Emperor of Constantinople.*

**W**E find it set down in ancient Chronicles, that the thrice noble and valiant *Pepin*, King of *France*, took to Wife *Bertha*, who was descended of Royal Race: This Lady was very fair and wise, but much incumb'd with Troubles, which, with great Pa-

*The HISTORY of*

tience she suffer'd. The chief Instrument of all the Mischief towards this good Queen, was plotted by a false old Woman, who first brought her in Dilgrace with the King her Husband, and after to be banished his Bed, while she in a cunning Manner brought in her Daughter in the Queen's stead. This old Woman having brought her Treachery to Effect, (for her Daughter was very like *Bertha*) it so came to pass, that King *Pepin* had two Sons by this Maiden, viz. *Hausfray* and *Henry*, both which Sons so grieved the King, and wasted the Country of *France* by their Outrages and Fury, that they caused the Queen to be utterly banished. By which she endur'd many sorrowful Days; but at last she began to receive Comfort again, for it so happen'd, that at the Request of divers Lords of *France*, this good Queen began to find Favour with the King her Husband; who, when he knew the Treachery of that wicked Woman against her, he much bewailed the Misery she had endur'd, and received her again with great Honour and Triumph. The Queen being restor'd to her former Bed, conceived and bear the King a Son, call'd *Charlemain the Puissant*.

This King *Pepin* had a Sister, named *Alexant*, a Woman of great Wit and Beauty, chanced so, that the Fame of this lovely Personage spread abroad, that at last *Alexander*, Emperor of *Constantinople*, came into *France*, accompanied with a gallant Troop of his Nobility. This Emperor, after his Arrival, suddenly assembled all his Lords, in their rich

Habili-

Habiliments, appointing them to take their Way towards King *Pepin's* Court. King *Pepin* understanding this sudden but joyful News, made great Preparations for entertaining this Emperor. King *Pepin*, with all his Noble Train, went to meet the Emperor, with great Joy, and conducted him to the Court of *France*, where fair *Bellisant* was, and she entertain'd him with no less Joy than her Brother had done before.

This Marriage being known among all the Inhabitants, there was great Joy on every Side. When the Time appointed came, these two were espoused in all Honour fitting for their Estates. This Marriage-Feast held long, but being ended, the Emperor prepar'd to take his Leave of his new Brother-in-Law, and take his Way towards *Constantinople*, with his fair Empress *Bellisant*. These mighty Princes came near a Port of the Sea, where they were oblig'd to take Leave of each other, which they did, with such Tenderness, as I am not able to express; giving to his Sister many rich Gifts, and then embracing her, with weeping Eyes, he left her to the Mercy of the Waves. Then all the Lords and Ladies took their Leaves of each other. The Emperor and all his Train arriving safe at *Constantinople*; at their Landing, they were all receiv'd with great Joy and Triumph. But mark what happened to the poor Lady *Bellisant*, who, by Treason and false Accusations, was cast out and banish'd.

## C H A P. II.

*How the Arch-Priest of Constantinople  
betray'd the Emperor, by making Love  
to fair Bellisant the Empress; and how  
the Arch-Priest, receiving a Repulse of  
Bellisant, practised Treason against her.*

**I**N Constantinople lived an Arch-Priest, in whom the Emperor put great Trust, and committed him to all his Bosom Secrets, and made him Governor over all his House; as also he was his principal Confessor, and one of his greatest Favourites. The Priest forgetting all the Emperor's Favours, and being overcome with the Beauty of the new Empress, inordinate Lust so far prevailed with him, that one time, spying her all-alone, sitting solitarily in her Chamber, he went in, and sat down by her. At first he began to behold her with a smiling Countenance; of all which the Lady mistrusted nothing, neither had she an evil Thought of him: But at last after many Gestures of Inipurity, he began to utter his lascivious Thoughts in a pressing and amorous Manner.

His Speeches being ended, the Lady, out of a grave and prudent Carriage, made an excellent Answer to this wicked Priest: Thou false, unjust and devillish Priest! Stain to thy

thy Profession! how darest thou open thy Mouth to such a Mass of Villanies as may thereon ensue: First, as I may say, against the Sacred Order; and secondly, against the Majestie of that Emperor that ever nourish'd thee, and hath raised thee to great Dignities, and from whom may justly proceed the Sentence of Condemnation both on thee and me, if he knew but thy lascivious and wicked Practices? Let fall, I say, these vile Provocations to Lust, and leave, for ever hereafter, to sollicit me in this Manner; which, if thou prosecutest any farther, thou canst expect nothing but a shameful Downfall, and a most damnable Death. Therefore depart, and see that you tempt me no more.

This angry Farewel of the worthy Empress stung the Priest at the very Heart, but he durst make no Reply, but craved Pardon for his bold and rash Follies committed. Thus being sore troubled in Mind, he resolved several Ways what to do against this innocent Lady. And seeing the Emperor knew nothing of this Matter from the Empress *Bellisant*, how the Arch-Priest would have intic'd her to Disloyalty to him, but could not; therefore he began to accuse her to the Emperor for divers Crimes. The Arch-Priest having now began to set abroach his devillish Practices, he at last resolv'd that he would, under the Cloak of Dissimulation, make known his watchful Care of his Estate, Welfare and Person. It fell out, on a Day when he spy'd the Emperor alone, he began to break out in this Manner:

O Emperor! thus it is, *Bellisant* your Wife, and Sister to the King of *France*, she whom you have advanc'd to this State and Dignity, faileth in the Duty and Loyalty which she owes to her Dread Lord; for she wandereth in her Love, giving that to another which is proper only to your self: To name the Person to your Majesty, I will not, for you know I am a Sacred Priest, and may not spill the Blood of any Man; but know, for certain, that by the Way of Confession I came to the Light thereof, whereof I neither ought nor will betray the Name of him that thus bewrays your Bed; and what is worse, she daily desires your Death, which grieves my Heart to think on.

The Emperor having heard this Accusation, little mistrusted the Treachery of this Arch-Priest, and gave Credit to all his fair but false Words, and therewith became extream pensive, that his Trust in her beauteous Love had been thus deceived.

Upon a Day, entering into the Chamber of his fair *Bellisant*, without speaking to her at all, in a most fierce Manner, took her by the Hair of her Head, and dragg'd her about the Chamber, that the Blood besmeard her Face in a most inhuman Sort. Alas, my Lord! said she, what moves you to this unwelcome Outrage? I call the Gods to Witness I never did any Thing in my Life against your Honour, or ever prostituted my Body to any Stranger's Love. The Emperor, not being thus satisfied, said, Thou Whore! I am

too

too well informed of thy Proceedings ; and cursed be the Day that ever I saw thy false deceitful Face ; and with that dash'd her Head against the Ground, insomuch, that all the Damsels, her Attendants, thought she had been dead.

The Court being in an Uproar upon this, up arose a just, wise, courageous and bold Baron, and spoke to the Emperor in this Manner : Right worthy Sir, I could wish you to be well advised ; this Lady is your espous'd Wife, Sister to Great King Pepin of France, who when he shall hear of the great Injury done to her, will muster up all his Men of War, and suddenly surprize all our Towns, Wives and Children, and revenge upon us these cruel Deeds unto his Sister. The worthy Baron having thus ended his Advice, the Lady fell upon her Knees before the Emperor, and in Tears thus she spake.

Alas ! my Lord, take Pity on an innocent Lady, for I am so free from an evil Act, that I never so much as thought any Evil against your Person or Dignity. At least, my Lord, pity the Fruit of my Body, for I am great with Child by you. If nothing can appease your Anger to me, then let my Body be imprison'd in some strong Tower till the Time of my Delivery, and then do with my Body what pleafeth you. So the Fruit of my Body may be kept safe. The Couriers perceiving nothing could mitigate the Rage of the Emperor, by a common Consent removed her out of his Presence,

into another Chamber. Having thus conveyed her away, the Ladies that were her Attendants fetch'd Water to wash her Face, and did all they cou'd to comfort her.

By this time the Emperor's Choler was a little pacified, by Means of his Lords and Barons that attended him; insomuch that he caus'd *Bellisant* to be brought before him. When she was come, his Heart trembled and fretted for Anger that he durst not put her to Death, for Fear of her Mighty and puissant Brother King *Pepin*. Thou cursed Woman, said he, were it not for thy Brother's Sake, the valiant King *Pepin of France*, I would make thee fry in the Fire, as an Example to all false Ladies. Stand and hear thy Judgment: I banish thee out of my Empire, and that to Morrow thou depart out of this City; and if thou be seen here any more, thou shalt assuredly suffer Death in all Extremity. The Emperor having pronounc'd Sentence against her, the Empress, with her Servant *Blandiman*, took Horse and passed through the City towards one of the Gates thereof; there met her great Multitudes of People, lamenting the Loss of so good an Empress.

When she was out of the Walls of the City, and entered into the wide Fields, she fell into a violent Fit of Weeping and Complaining, the Anguish whereof struck her into a Swoon as she sat on Horseback; but her Servant used all possible and speedy Means for her Recovery. And now

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now we turn to the traitorous Arch-Priest, who was the Cause of all these evil Practices.

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### C H A P. III.

*How the Arch-Priest put on the Habit of a Knight at Arms, and being well mounted, followed the Empress Bellisant, who was lately banish'd. How Bellisant in her Banishment was deliver'd of two Sons in the Wood, whose Names were Valentine and Orson; and how she lost them.*

THE Arch-Priest having wrought the Banishment of fair Bellisant, began to think how he should surely accomplish his Desire. Wherefore he changed his white Rocket into a Coat of Steel, and a Sword: And being thus accoutr'd, he mounted a milk-white Steed; and thus mounted, he made after her with all Expedition, enquiring of all he met which Way the Lady Bellisant was gone. After some Hours riding, he came to a spacious Forest, taking the direct Way towards the Lady. It chanc'd, he casting his Eye aside, spy'd the Lady, with her Servant Blandiman, sitting by a Fountain, lamenting

her miserable Fortunes ; *Blandiman* using all the Means he could to comfort her. The false Priest well perceiv'd it to be the Lady ; but by Reason of his Disguise, she could not imagine him to be the Arch-Priest her Enemy ; but coming nearer her, she quickly knew him, and being struck with a sudden Fear, said to her Servant ; Alas ! I well perceive this to be the false Arch-Priest coming towards us, and I am fearful lest he comes to do me farther Villany. Lady, said *Blandiman*, if he comes to do you farther Harm, I'll encounter him Body for Body. The Arch-Priest was ready to alight from his Horse to salute the Lady ; and after he had made himself known to her, he said to her in this Manner.

Dear Lady, thy Case is so pitiful, as to suffer Banishment by Sentence given against thee by the Emperor ; if thou wilt give me Entertainment in thy Love, I will bring it to pass, that the Emperor shall recall thy Banishment, and make thee shine more bright than before. Ah ! quoth the Lady, thou disloyal and traitorous Adversary, I have no Cause to bestow Love where my Life hath been put in Jeopardy. Quoth he, utter not such Expressions against me, for I am come not to vex or trouble you. And in speaking these Words, he bent his Body to the Lady, thinking to have kist her ; but *Blandiman* perceiving his Intent, got between them, and gave the Arch-Priest such a Stroke, as fell'd him to the Earth. The Arch-Priest had no sooner recover'd himself, but presently took him

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him to his Sword; which *Blandiman* perceiving, took a Glave which he had about him; whereupon grew a sore Fight between them: This Encounter lasted so long, that they were both wounded; but at last a Merchant came by, who perceiving their fierce Encounter, cried out, Lords, leave off, and tell me the Cause of your Variance, and I'll endeavour to end this Controversy. Sir, quoth *Blandiman*, let us first try our Right by Weapons, and then we'll be rul'd by Words. But the poor Lady could no longer bear Silence, but said to the Merchant, Alas, this Man which you see arm'd, is the false and traitorous Arch-Priest that hath follow'd me to rob me of my Honour, and force me to his insatiable Lust; also this is he that hath made a Separation between me and the Emperor, my Lord and Husband.

The Merchant, hearing her lamentable Tale, said to the Arch-Priest, Sir Priest, leave off your Enterprize, and dare not so much as touch this innocent Lady; for if the Emperor understood this Villany, he wou'd soon end thy Life in Infamy. As soon as the Arch-Priest heard this, he forlook his Combat, and fled through the Wood. But his Villanies were afterwards disclosed. The Merchant staid some little time, bewailing the hard Hap of the Lady, yet comforted her, saying, Alas, Lady, I see that this Arch-Priest has betray'd you, and brought you in hatred with the Emperor; but I'll promise you that if I live, I'll bewray all these Treacheries to the Emper-

Emperor, and bring the Traitor to a shameful Death. So with many Thanks for his Aid from *Blandiman*, the Merchant departed. The Merchant having left them, *Blandiman* set the Lady upon her Horse, and himself on his ~~s~~ so riding on, they came to a Lodging in their Way, where they remain'd eight Days, (during which time her Servant was recover'd of his Wounds) and then set forward towards *France*. Passing by *Orleans*, they took their Way towards *Paris*, where King *Pepin* was used to sojourn.

*Bellisant*, (as aforesaid) being with Child, was suddenly overtaken in the Forest; the time of her Delivery being come, she forsook her Horse, and bid her Servant lay her softly under a green Tree that grew hard-by, and make haste and get me the Help of Women, for I can go no farther, said she, my Pains so increase upon me. *Blandiman* obey'd her Commands, and lest he should not find the Place again, he set a Mark, that he might the readier come thither again; so away he rid to seek some Women to help his distressed Lady. He being gone, the Lady was left comfortless, all alone, without Succour of any Creature, and at last was deliver'd of two fair Sons in the desolate Forest. These Children were no sooner come into the World, but a fresh Misery happen'd to this Lady; for as she lay under the Tree, and her two Infants by her, suddenly came a huge Bear, most terrible to behold, and took up one of the Infants in her Mouth, and with great Pace

Pace hastened into the thickest of the Forest. This strange and unlook'd for Accident frightened the distressed Lady to the Soul, that she cry'd out most lamentably, scrabbling upon



her Hands and Knees to go after the Bear, who was quickly got out of her Sight. But, alas! it little avail'd her, for she never came to the Sight of her Child, 'till, by Miracle, it was at length disclosed. So long wander'd this Lady up and down, from Place to Place, weeping for her Child, that being weary with Travel she fell sick, and was almost at the Point of Death. In this Condition we leave her, and proceed to the other Child she left under the Tree.

It happen'd the same Day that her Brother, King *Pepin*, had takeit his Journey from *Paris*, towards *Constantinople*, to visit his Sister *Bellisant*; and striking thorough *Orleans*, he made such haste, that he enter'd into the Forest where his banish'd Sister was lately deliver'd of two Children, but knew not what had happen'd. Now as the King patted thro' this Forest, he spied lying under a Tree, alone, the other Son of *Bellisant*; and he said to his Attendants, My Lords, see I have here found a fair Encounter, even a Child. Said the Lords, It is even so. Said the King, Take it up, and it shall be brought up at my Charge as long as it lives, and be us'd as my own; and if it lives to Man's Estate, I'll endow it with Lands and Possessions. And calling to one of his Squires, he gave him Charge of it, saying, Take this Infant to *Orleans*, see it baptised, provide a Nurse for it, and let it want nothing. (The King little suspected that this Child was his Nephew.) The Squire, as the King had commanded him, bore the Child to *Orleans*, had it baptised, and gave it his own Name, call'd *Valentine*; and sought a Nurse, and gave it great Attendance, according to the King's Command. This done, the King proceeded on his Journey towards *Constantinople*, to see his Beauteous Sister *Bellisant*. But ere he could pass through the Forest, he chanced to meet with *Blandiman*, accompanied with a Woman that he had brought in order to assist his Lady in her greatest Extremity of Childbirth.

*Blan-*

Blandiman seeing the King, knew him, and suddenly alighted from his Horse, doing his Duty to him. The King perceiving it was Blandiman, ask'd what News from Constantinople? and above all, how his Sister Bellisant did? Blandiman answer'd, Most gracious Sovereign, I must tell you strange News of your loving Sister, and how the fares: Wherefore so it is, that by Force of Treason by the Arch-Priest of Constantinople, she is banish'd out of the Emperor's Court and Dominions; and, but for the Mercy of the Lords of the Emperor's Court, and others, she had been burrt to Ashes in the Sight of all the People.

King Pepin having heard the lamentable Relation of Blandiman, he broke out in bitter Words against her, saying, I think the Emperor no upright Judge, in sparing the Life of my Sister; for I swear, that if I had her now in my Possession, by Death I wou'd make her an Example to all false Ladies, while the World endureth. Then commanded all his Lords and others to stay their Journey, and return back to Paris; for the grievous Offences of my Sister stay's my Journey. And so in that distrust and melancholy King Pepin return'd towards Orleans. When Blandiman perceiv'd the King thus daunted and surprized, he durst proceed no farther in his Relation of the Lady Bellisant, but leaving the King, took his way towards the great Tree, where he lately left her in the Pains of Childbirth. Being come thither, he sought for her every where, but could hear no Tydings of her;

her ; neither knew he which Way to take. Being in this Extasy, at last he tied his Horse to a Thorn Tree, and began to make a closer search than before, and at length found her lying flat on the Earth, in a manner Speechless. *Blandiman* being glad he had found her, took her up in his Arms, and set her on her Feet, saying, Alas, dear Lady, how came you to stray so far from the Place where I left you.

The Lady replied, Ah ! *Blandiman*, my Distresses daily encrease ; for thou wert no sooner gone, but I being deliver'd of two Babes, a ravenous Bear assail'd me, and bore away one of them, and I endeavour'd, tho' in vain, to overtake this Savage Creature, leaving the other Infant under the Tree. Lady, *quoth be*, the other Infant ! Why, I came but lately from the Tree, and am well assur'd there lay no Instant there. How ! *quoth the Lady*, no Child under the Tree ? With these Words she fell into a Swoon ; but *Blandiman* used his utmost Endeavours to comfort her. Then she cry'd out, Come Death, and finish what Sorrows do prolong.

All this while *Blandiman* heard her piteous Complaints, insomuch that he grew weary of her Grief ; at last she betaking herself to her Feet, he accompanied her, with a Woman he had brought with him, to a Neighbouring Village, where they lodg'd and nourish'd her, 'till she had recover'd Strength. Then *Blandiman* told her, how he by chance met with her Brother, King *Pepin*, and as soon as he understood that the Emperor had exil'd you,

he

he lightly gave Credit that you was in the Fault, and lays all the Blame on you.

O ! quoth the *Lady*, now what I most fear'd is come to pass, and I perceive I am beset with Adversaries on every side. I will never return again to *Paris*, but take my Way into some Remote Land, where my Body, with my Faults, shall be smother'd, for my Brother's Anger is so great, that he would willingly deliver me to Death, therefore it is better to fly and save my Life, than fall into the Fury of so Angry a Brother. This she spoke with Tears: Said *Blandiman*, *Lady*, leave off your Tears, and be assur'd of my Fidelity: Why then, said she, since thou art so Faithful, let us resolve upon some strange Adventure, and so they pass'd forth to expose themselves to future Dangers, where now we shall leave them with sorrowful Hearts, and return again to say something of the Bear that carried away one of the Children.

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## C H A P. IV.

*Of the Bear that bore away one of the Children.*

THE Bear (as you heard of) that carried away one of the Children, all this while had offer'd it no Violence, but bare it to her Cave: In this Cave the Bear had four young

young ones, among whom she laid the Child to be devoured : yet all this while the young Bears did it no harm, but with their rough Paws stroak'd it softly. The old Bear perceiving they did not devour it, shew'd a Bearish kind of Favour towards it, insomuch that she kept it, and gave it suck among her young ones, the space of one Year. This Child by reason of the Nourishment it receiv'd, become rough all over, like a Beast, and as he grew in Strength, began to range up and down the Woods; and when he met with other Beasts, would smite them, and got such a Mastery over them, that they began to shun the Place where he came. And in this Beast like Estate he pass'd the term of fifteen Years, growing up to such Strength, that scarce any Man or Beast in the Forest durst stir abroad, lest he should kill them, and afterwards eat their Flesh. His Name was call'd *Orson*, because a Bear had been his Nurse, and was also grown rough like a Beast. The Renown of this wild Man grew so great, and spread so far abroad over all the Realm of *France*, that they of the Country round about hunted him, but prevail'd not, for he never fear'd Weapons, or Engines, for he pass'd through them all, snapping them in pieces. All this Time he liv'd in the Forest, sic neither wore Garment, nor had any kind of Speech.

Here we leave the wild Man in the Forest, and look what became of the Lady Bel-

*Lijant,*

lisant, and her Servant *Blandiman*; and we shall suddenly find them wandering through several Lands and Countries; the Lady still bewailing the loss of her two Children. But in the midst of her Sorrow, yet pass'd on their weary Journey, till at length she came to a Port in *Portugal*, on which stood an Invincible Castle, kept by a Giant call'd *Feragus*, so large, that there was not a Horse to be found that could bear the living Trunk of this huge Giant. It happen'd, at this Castle, that every Ship that pass'd by this Port, was to pay Tribute to this Giant, which he himself daily came on board to receive. At length he came into the Ship where the Lady *Bellisant* was, and casting his Eyes about, he spy'd her; then kindly taking her by the Hand, he led her into the Castle to his Wife, for he was married to a beautiful Lady. *Blandiman* follow'd his Lady also, fearing the Giant; but he behav'd himself so nobly, that he did not offer her the least Violence, but presented her to his Wife, who gladly receiv'd her; the Giant having charged his Wife to use her and *Blandiman* honourably.

During her Abode in the Castle, she would often shed Tears for the Loss of her two Children; and the Lady of the Castle would often comfort her in the best Manner she could. Within this Castle she tarry'd a long time. And here we must leave her, and return back to tell you something of the Emperor of *Constantinople* and the Arch-Priest.

## C H A P. V.

*How by the Counsel of the Arch-Priest  
new Customs and Taxations were raised  
thro' the City of Constantinople; and  
how the Treasons came to light. How  
the Emperor sent for King Pepin, to see  
the Combat fought between the Arch-  
Priest and the Merchant.*

**T**HE Emperor having shamefully expe-  
*Bellisant his Wife, often repented him  
of the Fact; and the Arch-Priest being an O-  
racler in his Ears, insomuch, that he heap'd  
new Honours continually upon that traitorous  
Wretch, advancing him above the Highest in  
the Empire; and whatever he commanded  
was effected. At last, having got all Power  
and Authority in his own Hands, he began  
to raise the Customs and Taxes of the City  
of Constantinople; which struck to the Hearts  
of the Inhabitants. Amongst these his Impos-  
itions, it happen'd, that, according to their  
yearly Customs, there was held a great Mart  
in the City, which was about the Month of  
*September.* Hereunto resorted a great Num-  
ber of People, especially Merchants. The  
Mart-Day being come, the Emperor gave the  
Charge thereon to this Arch-Priest, who ac-  
cordingly provided himself, and arm'd two  
hun-*

hundred Men to guard his own Person. Being thus accompanied, he took his Way into the City.

It so chanced, that among the rest of those that sold Wares, the Merchant was there present, of whom you have heard before, viz. he that came riding by the Way where Blan-  
Himan the Lady's Squire, and the treacherous Arch-Priest were fighting. The Arch-Priest perceiv'd him, but took no Notice of him, for he was fearful that all his Villany should come light. The Sight of the Merchant much troubled the Arch-Priest, so that he wish'd his Death, and would have effected the same, by the Authority he now had, but that he ear'd some great Tumult would arise thereon. Now mark what follow'd: The Merchant was furnished with costly Wares, as Cloth of Gold, Silver, Silk, &c. and took more Money than any five Merchants beside. The Fair being ended, the Arch-Priest sent forth his Officers to demand his accustom'd Duties. One Officer came to the Merchant, and said, Sir, you must pay 10 d. on every Pound you have taken, it being so order'd by the Great Officers to whom it belongs. He at this being angry, said, Cursed be that disloyal Arch-Priest, for he is the only Cause of these new-rais'd Exactions; it had been well if he had long since had his Desart, and with shame and infamy end his Days. At which reproofful Words, the Officer took his Staff and struck the Merchant on the Head, that presently the Blood gushed out: Then the Mer-

Merchant drew his Sword, and struck the Officer, that he laid him at his Feet for dead,

Upon this, arose a great Rout through the Fair, insomuch that the other Officers coming up to help their Fellow, took the Merchant and carried him before the Arch-Priest. The Arch-Priest would have put him to Death, but the Merchant appeal'd to Justice to have his Cause try'd by Law. The Arch-Priest fearing the People, sent him away to the Emperor, for nothing could satisfy him but his Life; but in seeking the Life of the Merchant, he purchased his own Death. The Emperor in Person sat as Judge, and the Arch-Priest brought his Advocate to plead his Cause, which was; That the Merchant had committed Murder, and had spoken opprobrious Words against the Arch-Priest. The Advocate having ended his Accusation, the Merchant fell on his Knees before the Emperor, and said, Most excellent Prince, give me but Audience, and I shall unfold a Matter of such Importance, that it touches your Person in the highest Degree of Treason. Say on, said the Emperor. Mighty Emperor, I advise you to make fast the Gates about your Palace, that none depart this Place. The Emperor did as he requested. Then, said the Merchant, all you that love the Honour of the Emperor, attend my Words; The Time is come that the Treason of the curse Arch-Priest will be revealed, and come to light: Great Emperor, this is that cursed Man that you have nourish'd, and brought

to

to great Honour, who hath deceiv'd your Trust; for he it is that has wrought all the Discord between you and your virtuous Lady, whom you have banish'd from your Bed, and by whom you have receiv'd more Dishonour than ever he receiv'd Honour from you; for he secretly, and underhand, made Love to the Empress; But she denied him; which he perceiving, there was no Likelihood to accomplish his Desire, it drove him into fear that his his disloyal Act would come to light, and therefore devised to falsify unto your Ears her faithful Love to your Bed. All which his false Accusations I will here unfold the Truth of what these Eyes were Witnesses:

It happen'd on a Day, after the Banishment of the Empress, as I was riding about my Affairs, I chanced to travel through a Wood, and found this treacherous Priest transform'd out of the Habit of a Priest into that of a Knight, ready for Combat. Drawing nearer, I beheld him fighting with another Man unarm'd, who, at last, I found to be *Blandiman*, Squire to the banish'd Lady, who conducted her in the time of her Exile. I perceiving they encounter'd each other so fiercely, I called to them to give over; but they little regarded me. I perceiv'd the Lady weeping; and at last she said unto me, Gentle Merchant, assist me against this treacherous Arch-Priest, that seeketh by Force to rob me of my Honour; this is he by whom I am banish'd from my Emperor's Bed and Country. With that I put Spurs to my Horse, and ran between them

them to part them; which the Arch-Priest perceiving, he fled into the Wood, I well knowing who he was. Noble Emperor, it had been my part to have reveal'd this long ago, but I durst not, for fear his Greatness should have overswayed my Truth, and so have brought myself to an untimely Death.

The Emperor having heard all this, he sigh'd, and at last fell into Tears; then turn'd to the Arch-Priest, saying, Well, I have seen now what I ever mistrusted! Thou hast made me, of all Men, most unhappy! Thy Treason hath bewitch'd me; in an evil Hour I gave Credit to thy false Tongue!

The Arch-Priest hearing what the Emperor said, began to intreat him not to be so impatient, nor to give Credit to this dangerous Tale of the Merchant against him: For, says he, he belies me, and I am not guilty of what he accuseth me with. Thou liest, quoth the Merchant, if thou deniest what I charge thee with; and if thou standest still in the Denial, I challenge thee by single Combat to maintain the Truth; and more than that, ere Night I will deliver my Body to Death, or yield myself vanquish'd.

The Emperor seeing the Merchant so resolute, he said, Arch-Priest, it is time that either thou quit thyself by answering this Challenge, or yield thyself guilty of what has been laid to thy Charge. The Arch-Priest reply'd, Mighty Emperor, to answer to the Merchant's Challenge is contrary to my Place and Calling, for I am a sacred Prelate of

the

the Church, and therefore I may refuse to fight. Nay, said the Emperor, in this Case no Excuse is to be admitted; but you must either fight or yield yourself a Traitor to our Crown and Dignity. At these Words the Arch-Priest was sorely troubled in Mind, yet, at last, he was fain to accept the Combat. So the Emperor commanded them both to safe keeping, 'till he had sent Letters to King *Pepin of France*.

The Day of Combat being appointed, Tydings came to the Emperor, that King *Pepin* was come to *Rome*, to assist the Pope against the Infidels. The Emperor hearing thereof, sent Ambassadors thither, with Command to invite King *Pepin* to *Constantinople*, meaning thereby to make him an Eye-Witness of these Contentions, and to prove the Arch-Priest a Traitor.

The Ambassadors, after long Travel, arrived at *Rome*, where they found King *Pepin*; who having had Notice of their coming, gave them Entertainment according to their several Degrees. Then the Ambassadors said, Great Lord, we present these Letters from *Alexander* your Brother, Emperor of *Constantinople*, of which we intreat a speedy Answer.

King *Pepin* took the Letters graciously, and read them; after which, he said, My Lords, the Emperor sends me Word that my Sister *Bellisant* has been wrongfully banish'd; and that, by reason of a false Arch-Priest, to whom he gave too much Trust, which Priest, for these his treasonable Facts, is accus'd

by a Merchant, who has challeng'd this treacherous Priest to single Combat. Now the Day and Place is ready for the Trial of his Fact, whereby I shall be fully satisfied whether my Sister has been guilty of what she has been charg'd with, and shamefully banish'd for. Upon all which, I swear and vow, by my Crown and Dignity, that if the Emperor has offer'd this Indignity without just Cause, I will be reveng'd of him in the extreameſt Manner that War can thunder forth. Having ended his Speech to his Lords, in Presence of the Ambassadors, he command'd that every Man should accompany him to *Constantinople*, to behold this Fight between the Merchant and the Arch-Priest. The Day of his Departure from *Rome* being come, he takes his Way towards *Constantinople*. The Emperor hearing of his coming, made Triumph to welcome him. The Emperor, mounted on Horseback, richly accompanied, march'd out of the City to meet his Brother King *Pepin*. At last they met; but the Emperor overcome with Sorrow at the Remembrance of *Bellisant*, could not utter a Word: On the other side, King *Pepin* being fiercely anger'd at what had happen'd to his Sister, gave no Respect to the Emperor, but began to gird him in this Manner; Emperor, (quoth he) leave off your Lamentations and Sorrows which you seem to shew for my Sister, for he that has a Harlot to his Wife is unwise to grieve at her Misbehaviour.

Nay,

Nay, said the Emperor, speak not Evil of your Sister, for I am now fully persuaded she is virtuous and honest, and that against all Equity I have banish'd her out of my Country. Think you so now? quoth King *Pepin*; then are you worthy of a double Shame to proceed against an innocent Lady, and, like a common Harlot, throw her out into Banishment, being of the Royal Blood of *France*.

The Emperor hearing the King so bitter against him, said to him, Alas, my Lord, do not thus follow me with Anger, I having sent for you with Intent that your Eyes may be Witness of the Truth. 'Tis true, quoth King *Pepin*, but 'tis all too late what now you say, for you have deliver'd over my Sister to the World's Infamy, even to Banishment; and for ought I know, to Death itself.

Whilst these Words passed between them, they were now enter'd *Constantinople*, where, with great Joy, they were received of the Inhabitants. The Emperor would have had King *Pepin* to have lodg'd with him in his Palace, but the King refus'd it, and caused his Train to lodge within the City, and he himself also. Then the Emperor caused many Gifts and Presents to be offer'd him, but he disdainfully rejected them, resenting the Injustice done to his Sister.

## C H A P. VI.

*How the Merchant and the Arch-Priest encounter'd about the clearing of the Lady Bellisant ; and what a glorious Victory did betide the Merchant. How King Pepin, after the Combat, return'd into France, and after sail'd to Rome to fight the Sarazens that had surprized the City.*

**N**Ow was the Day appointed come, for the Combat between the Arch-Priest and the Merchant ; and every thing was in a Readiness, according to the Command of the Emperor. At last came both the Combatants into the Field, and presented themselves before the Emperor. The Arch-Priest was arm'd in a most sumptuous Armour of Proof, all emboss'd with Gold and Pearl, which made such a glittering Show, that it dazzled the Eyes of the Beholders. The Arch-Priest came forth into the Field, and took his Place appointed him, at one end of the List. The Emperor beholding the glorious Show that the Arch-Priest made in his Arms, call'd forth the Merchant, causing him first to kneel down, and in the Presence of the Assembly dubb'd him Knight : Then commanded he that a rich Armour should be put on him, in the Presence of King Pepin ; who, during the time he was arming,

arming, promis'd this Merchant, if he overcame the Arch-Priest, to advance him to great Livings and high Authority.

These two Adversaries being now in Readiness, their Horses were brought forth, and they mounted, ready to give Battle. The Emperor gave strict Charge to all his Officers of Arms, to have a special Eye upon the Arch-Priest, lest he should fly the Field, or run away from them. The Merchant being mounted, and his Sword girt to him, first enter'd the Lists; then came the Arch-Priest, accompanied with Nobles of great Honour and Dignity. The Combatants thus enter'd the Lists, ready to charge each other, King Pepin called out aloud to the Merchant, saying, My Friend, the Gods give thee Victory over this false Traitor: the Merchant replied, Dread King, I doubt not but this Night to make this traitorous Priest confess, That he has villainously brought the Destruction of your Sister. Then came a Herald, and administer'd to them both an Oath; and so clearing the Lists, left the Champions to their Fortunes. The Marshals of the Field brought each of them a Spear, which they had no sooner received but they put Spurs to their Horses, and ran with such Violence together, that their Spears were broken in their Hands; then they set forward for another Course, charging each other with their Swords, in such a violent Manner, that they cut off whole Quarters of their Corsets. The Arch-Priest seeing himself so stiffly matched, gave over the Fight till

towards the Evening, (for such was the Custom of the Country) thinking thereby to weary out the Merchant; which the Merchant perceiving, he prepar'd to meet the Arch-Priest couragiouſly, when he encounter'd him, which being not long after, the Merchant ſo redoubled his Strokes, that he ſmote off one of his Ears; and with the Violence of the ſame Blow, the Merchant's Sword fell from his Hands; which the Arch-Priest ſeeing, put Spurs to his Horse, and charg'd him



with ſuch Violence, that he ran againſt the Merchant's Hoſe, and thrust out one of his Eyes; the Hoſe feeling himſelf hurt, ran up and down as mad, leaping ſo furiously, that he

he threw his Rider; the Merchant's Foot hung in the Stirrup, whereby he was in great Danger. (King *Pepin* was so discourag'd at this Disaster, that the Tears trickled down his Cheeks).

Now that which was most miraculous was, that all the time the Merchant was dragg'd up and down the Field, with his Foot hanging in the Stirrup, the Arch-Priest could not force his Horse forward, fled to and fro, so that he could not make a Prey of the Merchant, as he intended. But at last the Merchant's Horse fell down, and he got his Foot clear of the Stirrup.

The Priest perceiving he had recover'd his Legs, ran with Violence upon him, and gave him five or six Blows upon his Shoulders, that the poor Merchant was astonished. At last he was forc'd to give back, to recover Breath; and in a little time he gave a fresh Assault upon the Arch-Priest, with such Violence, that the Sword fell out of his Hand; but he first so wounded him, that the Blood ran through his Armour upon the Earth. This so vex'd the Priest, that he grew mad with Rage, and turn'd his Horse upon the Merchant, thinking to have over-run him; but the Merchant observing his Drift, prepared to receive him, and drawing a long Knife, punch'd it into the Belly of the Horse, which made him fling and leap, so that the Priest was like to have been unhors'd; and striving to save himself, he lost his Shield. The Merchant seeing him unarm'd, ran hastily

and caught up his Shield, and cast it away; and then making towards his Horse, smote him in the Belly with his Sword, which brought both Horse and Rider to the Ground.

The Priest being thus unhors'd, endeavour'd to recover himself; but the Merchant gave him such a Blow, that he laid him flat upon the Ground again, and leaping on him, pulled off his Helmet, thinking to have smitten off his Head. The Arch-Priest seeing himself in such Danger, said, I pray thee, Friend, take Pity on me, and give me Leave to confess my self, for I yield myself vanquish'd. The Merchant was very courteous, and granted his Request. The Arch-Priest was no sooner got on his Feet, but clasping the Merchant in his Arms, threw him on the Ground, and leap'd upon him, saying to the Merchant, I have now an Advantage over thee, and thou shalt not escape with Life, if thou dost not effect what I command thee. Ah! said the Merchant, hast thou betray'd me? Well, I stand at thy Mercy; therefore let me know what thou commandest? Then said the Priest, go with me to the Emperor and King Pepin, and testify, that thou hast falsely accused me; which, if thou wilt do, I promise thee to save thy Life. The Merchant having heard what the Priest said, was very sorrowful; but at length he thus answer'd, Sir Priest, I am ready to accomplish your Desires; so let us go to the Emperor, and there I will set you free from all the Accusations which I have exhibited against you.

Very

Very well, said the Arch-Priest, then let us go together.

The Merchant had no sooner got on his Feet, but he began afresh to open the Treason of the Arch-Priest, even to his Teeth; and again he took Courage, and suddenly clasping the Arch-Priest in his Arms, threw him on the Ground, and having him at Advantage, he said, Arch-Priest, seeing you have taught me to play my Part, think no more on Confessions, for you shall confess to me, or none. The Arch-Priest seeing himself beat at his own Weapons, began again to intreat; but the Merchant not regarding him, presently put out his Eyes, and gave him so many deadly Blows, that he secur'd him from doing him any further Harm. Then the Merchant called the Marshals of the Field, and said, Lo, here you may see I have done my Endeavour against the Arch-Priest; and if he is vanquish'd, say so: And now my Request is, that you would conduct *Alexander* the Emperor of *Constantinople*, and King *Pepin* of *France*, to this Place, that they may be Ear-witnesses of this Confession which the Arch-Priest shall make to them.

The Marshals did according to the Request of the Merchant; and presently the Emperor and King *Pepin* went to the Place where the Arch-Priest lay vanquished.

When the Emperor and the King, with the rest of the Nobles, had heard the villainous Priest acknowledge that the Empress was entirely innocent and that the wicked Plot was

all of his own forming ; who can express the Joy and Sorrow of these two mighty Potentates, and of the rest of the Assembly.

The first Thing that was determin'd, was the Execution of this wicked Priest, which being finish'd, the Emperor came to King *Pepin*, and in the most friendly and passionate Manner, endeavoured to excuse himself to him for the Disgrace of his Sister ; vowing, as a true Mark of the Sense of his Indiscretion, he would be his Servant to the End of his Life ; upon which a perpetual Peace is made between them, and King *Pepin*, but not without some heavy Cogitations, sets forward for his own Country.

Great were the Rejoicings in *France* upon the Return of their Sovereign, and among others, the Squire that had the keeping of *Valentine*, came to wait upon him, bringing with him the young Man, to whom he presented him, giving an Account at the same time, of his extraordinary Endowments, both of Body and Mind. The King took him by the Hand, and asked him several Questions, which he answer'd with so much good Sense and Ability, that the King was so charm'd with him, that he made him many large Presents, and order'd him, for the future, to be educated with his own Children.

*Valentine*, who was ever practicing Feats of Arms, which the King observing furnished him with Horse and Armour, and all Things suitable, equal to the best Knight in *France*, which rais'd him many Enemies among the

Cour-

Courtiers, only *Eglantine* the King's fair Daughter had an extream Tenderness and REGARD for him, and, strongly opposed his going with her Father to the Assistance of the Pope against the *Saracens*.

It was not long before every Thing was got in a Readiness for the King's Journey, and *Valentine*, who had a high Command in the Army, set forward among the rest. When they came into the Wood of *Orleans*, the King told them, he was inform'd there was a Savage in the Shape of a Man, that infested these Woods, and gave great Disturbance to the Passengers, and he should be glad, before they proceeded any farther, if he could be taken and brought before him; upon which the Wood is begirt; and the King venturing too far, came to the Cave where the wild Man was, who no sooner saw him, but he flew upon him with great Fury, and doubtless had torn him to Pieces, if he had not been prevented by a Knight, who drawing his Sword, gave the King an Opportunity to make his Escape. The King relates the Story to the whole Company, who joining themselves together, resolve to take *Orson* alive, or put him to Death. When they came, they found the Knight slain, and *Orson* fled; which occasioned them to give over the Pursuit, 'till a fitter Opportunity.

After this the King hastens to *Rome*, but before he could arrive, the *Saracens* had taken the Town, and put many thousand Christians to the Sword, which so enraged him that he vowed

vowed Revenge ; however, thought it proper to give a little Respite to his Army, and what after befel shall be related in the proper Place.

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## C H A P. VII.

*How King Pepin besieges Rome ; and how Valentine kills the Admiral of the Saracens, and wins the City.*

KING *Pepin* being thus come to *Rome*, made a Speech to his Army, representing the Havock that these bloody Idolaters had made, and the Necessity there was to give them speedy Battle, desiring one of his Officers would carry a Letter of Defiance to their Admiral, which none accepting, *Valentine* stood up and offered to carry the Message, which King *Pepin* greatly approved, and ordered a Secretary to be brought to write one, which he signed and gave to *Valentine*, who accordingly delivered it to the Admiral in his own Palace.

Upon the Receipt of this Letter of Defiance, the Marshal was so exceedingly enraged, that he swore by *Mahomet*, if he thought he undertook this bold Adventure through Pride and vain Glory, he should be punished with Death. *Valentine* in his Defence, pretended that he was reputed a Coward in the French Army,

Army, and in Disgrace with the King, and had no other Way to recover, but by bringing this Message, which I beg you to excuse; adding further, that I have it Command from the King, to offer to break a Spear with you in single Combat.

When the Admiral heard this bold Speech, he swore by *Mahomet* he should not be refused; but at this instant, says he, I offer thee the Just, and to make the Matter more conspicuous, it shall be done without the City. After this, the Marshal order'd *Valentine* to be entertained with the utmost Respect, and withal, commanded that he should be furnish'd with a Horse and Armour, in all Points equal to his own.

Before the time of their Justing, *Valentine* was not wanting to let the King know what had happened, and likewise to prepare the Christians within the City to be ready against the Signal. When the Champions were entered the List, and each of them prepared for the Encounter, they ran the first Course with such Violence, that both their Spears were shiver'd in a thousand Pieces; and at the second, the Admiral was quite run through the Body, upon which the *Pagans* were preparing to fall upon *Valentine*, which King *Pepin* observing, marched with his whole Army to his Assistance, on which ensued a bloody Battle, wherein the Christians at last prevailed, and slew the *Saracens*, in mighty Numbers, and so restored the City to its former Liberty.

## C H A P. VIII.

*How Haufrey and Henry repined at the King's Love to Valentine.*

KING Pepin having reliev'd Rome, returnt to his own Country, where he is welcomed with all the Demonstrations of Joy; nor was Valentine an unwelcome Guest to the generality of the People, especially to Eglatine, who took all Opportunity to give him daily Tokens of her Affection, (only Haufrey and Henry bore him Ill-will, and sought his Destruction.)

It happened one Day, when the King was at Dinner, that Valentine was attending upon him; that the King called to him, and in the Hearing of all his Nobles, told him, That he was indebted to him for the Preservation of his Life, and for many other signal Acts of Duty and Service; and that, in Consideration thereof, he freely gave him the Earldom of Clairmond, and wculd be sure to shew him further Marks of his Favour the first Opportunity.

This new Declaration of the King's, gave the two Brothers Haufrey and Henry fresh Cause for Malice and Jealousy, insomuch, that they contrive daily Plots to take away his Life, which Valentine nothing suspecting, went on chearfully in the King's Service, and

grew

grew every Day more and more in his Favour. But leave we this at present, to return a little to his Brother *Orson*, against whom such frequent Complaints were brought to Court, that the King, with the Advice of his Nobles, issued out his Proclamation with a Reward of a thousand Crowns for any that should take this furious wild Man, either alive or dead, and bring his Head before him.

Hereupon assembled many Knights to take this Affair in Hand; and whilst the King was debating with them, *Henry*, Valentine's Enemy being there, proposed to the King to send *Valentine*, who having offered unlawful Love to your Daughter *Eglantine*, he is the fittest to fight this Savage, whom, if he vanquishes, let him have her in Marriage.

The King knowing the Malice of his Heart, replies, These Speeches are ungrateful to me; I know him to be wise and valiant, and believe him to be of noble Extraction, and my Will is, that he have Access to my Daughter whenever he pleases.

*Valentine*, who heard all that passed, tells *Haufrey*, You speak ill against me without Cause: However, since you propose the Conquest of this wild Man, I will undertake the Enterprize, or leave my Carcase dead in the Field.

At this the King was exceeding angry at his two Sons, for putting *Valentine* upon so dangerous an Undertaking; and the fair *Eglantine* made great Lamentation upon the same Occasion, who sent one of her Damsels to *Valentine*,

*lentine*, desiring to speak with him; but he excused himself, saying, 'Twas improper at present, but he was fully determined to take upon him the Expedition, in which, if he succeeded, he would at his Return do himself the Honour to wait upon her; and so took his Leave.

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## C H A P. IX.

*Valentine conquers Orson his Brother, a wild Man in the Woods of Orleans, and presents him to King Pepin.*

**N**O W *Valentine* went on his Journey, and soon arrived in the Forest, but it being Night, he tied his Horse to a Tree, and took himself to the Top for his Security. As soon as it was Day, looking round about him, he observed his Brother *Orson* coming towards him, and coming to the Tree where the Horse was ty'd, and having never seen such a Horse before, he began to scratch and tear him with his Nails, upon which the Horse grew mad, and kick'd at him with great Fury.

*Valentine* perceiving his Horse in Danger, cried out aloud, and said, Wild Man, leave my Horse. The wild Man hearing a strange Voice, looked up to the Tree, and seeing a Man, made divers Signs for him to come down,

down. *Valentine* making all the haste he could, drew his Sword, which, when *Orson* saw, he leaped back, but suddenly returned again upon *Valentine*, and threw him to the Ground. Being thus both grovelling on the Ground, *Valentine* assay'd divers times to have gotten *Orson* under him. When he saw that by Strength there was no Hope to overcome him, he pull'd out a sharp-pointed Knife, and smote *Orson* in the Side; he feeling himself wounded, fiercely assaulted *Valentine* with his sharp Nails: They fought so long together, that it is too tedious here to relate; however, so long, that they both grew faint. In which Tedium, both standing gaping upon each other, *Valentine* looked stedfastly upon him, made Signs to him, he wou'd give Food and Raiment befitting a human Creature. *Orson* understood his Meaning, and made Signs also, that he wou'd obey him in every Thing he desired. And thus *Valentine* conquer'd the wild Man.

All this Adventure now knitting up in this Manner, he took *Orson* by the Hand, and shewed him by Signs that he shou'd go on before him till they were out of the Wood, for he would not trust him behind; and being out of the Wood, *Valentine* took off one of his Girths, and bound his Hands fast, that he should not attempt to do him any Hurt; and in this Manner he mounted on Horseback, and led the wild Man after him.

*Valentine* took his Way towards *Orleans*, but you must imagine he could not reach thither in

in one Day, therefore he resolved to lodge at the next Village; but the Inhabitants perceiving the wild Man, they retired into their Houses, and shut up their Doors. *Valentine* cried out to them, Open your Doors every



Man, and fear not, for we are come only for Lodging; yet for all this they would not. *Valentine*, by Signs, bid the wild Man break open one of the Gates of an Inn, which he did, into which they enter'd. *Valentine* went into the Stable and set up his Horse; and *Orson*, in the mean time, went into the Kitchen, where there was Capons and other Provisions upon a Spit roasting. *Valentine* made Signs that he should turn the Spit; but he not understanding the Meaning, set his Talons upon the

the Meat, and tore it from the Spit, and in a greedy Manner devoured it; and seeing a Caldron of Water standing by, into which he put his Head and drank. *Valentine* perceiving him to be athirst, made Signs to him to forsake the Water, and he would give him Wine; *Orson* drank so freely of the Wine, that he became intoxicated, and throwing himself on the Floor, slept, as his Custom was, like a wild Beast in the Forest.

Now the Morning being come, *Valentine* betook himself to his Horse, and leading the wild Man bound towards *Orleans*, where when they arriv'd, the City was all in an Uproar, and forsook their Houses for fear of him

By this time Tydings came to King *Pepin*, that *Valentine* had conquer'd the wild Man, and brought to *Orleans*. *Valentine* rode thro' the City till he came to the Palace-Gate of the King; and when the Porter saw *Orson*, he shut the Gates upon them, 'till he bid him go and tell the King he need be under no Apprehensions or Fear of the wild Man, for he would hurt no Body. So *Valentine* took him by the Hand, and led him into Court, where the King, accompanied with his Nobles, kindly welcom'd him Home. The King viewed the wild Man narrowly, and said, That he was of fair Stature, and if he were cloathed and armed, he would have the Shape of a worthy Knight.

Says *Valentine*, My Liege, I think it is proper he were baptized; which being done, and supper ended, they all went to their respective

ative Apartments, and *Valentine* and *Orson* was appointed to a fair Chamber and Bed; but as soon as *Orson* entered, he laid him down on the Ground, and fell asleep.

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## C H A P. X.

*How Haufrey and Henry conspire to murder Valentine; and how Duke Savary sent to King Pepin for Aid against the Green Knight, who threatned to marry his Daughter against his Will.*

**S**o glad and joyful was the Lady *Eglantine*, that *Valentine* had conquered the wild Man, that she sent him *Werd* to bring the wild Man to her. Then he took *Orson* by the Hand, and led him to her, where were assembled divers Ladies to behold him; and *Orson* entertained them with several diverting Signs and Gestures. While this Assembly were in *Eglantine's* Chamber, *Haufrey* came to *Henry*, and said to him, Brother, you see how the Honour of this Foundling increaseth, therefore let us lay a Plot to destroy him. Accordingly they put it in Action, and rushed into the Chamber. Assoon as *Haufrey* was enter'd, he thus began with *Valentine*: Disloyal Man, now shalt thou know the Price of thy Inconstancy, by abusing our Sister; then giving him

him at the same time; a mighty Blow with his Fist upon the Face, that the Blood run out of his Mouth; *Henry* on the other Hand thought to have smitten him too with a Glave to the Ground, but *Orson* perceiving they were in earnest, leap'd out, and gave *Haufrey* such a stroak with his rough Fist, that he fell'd him; after ran to *Henry*, and girded him so between his Arms, that if the Ladies had not been in Presence to have appeas'd his Wrath, he had destroyed them both.

This caused an Outcry through the whole Court; *Haufrey* and *Henry* went to their Father, making Complaint against *Valentine* and the wild Man. The King hearing their Complaint, was sorry, and gave Orders that *Orson* should be put into a strong Tower, and not come abroad without Leave; and then sent to *Valentine*, to know the true Cause of this Disorder: Who, when he came before the King, had related all the Circumstances; Then said the King, *Orson* has done nothing but right; and as for you, *Haufrey* and *Henry*, I see you are full of Malice against *Valentine*; therefore I charge you not to attempt any ill against him, for I vow, I would not lose him for the best Baron in my Land, for I have made many Trials of his Love and Faithfulness towards me. And with this Answer *Haufrey* and *Henry* straightway departed. Not long after the coming of *Valentine* and *Orson* to Court, but the Duke Savary sent certain Messengers to King *Pepin*, which said unto him, Great King, our Duke hath sent us to

to you, to request your Aid against a false Pagan, (called the *Green Knight*) who hath besieged his Confines, and intended to have his Daughter by Force of Arms. The King promised the Messenger that he would agree to assist the Duke; but scarce had he made this Promise, when News came to Court of another Messenger from *Lyons*, which broughte Advice, that the *Almains* were coming against him with a great Army.

The King was very much troubled at this, and presently called his Nobles, and craved their Counsel, wherein 'twas resolved that the Army should forthwith march against the *Almains*. The Duke, I confess deserveth to be succour'd, but yet in two Extreams let us chuse the less; therefore I judge it meet, first to defend our own Country: With these Words the Messenger from the Duke *Savary* departed, and carried these Tydings with him, which made the Duke very sorry to hear, because the *Green Knight* strongly oppressed him.

Now, gentle Reader, I'll let you understand, this *Green Knight* was Brother to *Ferragus*, the Giant that kept the Lady *Bellisant* in his Castle, who was Mother of *Valentine* and *Orson*, as it is before delared.

Duke *Savary* having no Hope of Aid from King *Pepin*, made open Proclamation through all his Dominions, that all Men should be ready armed against To-morrow; for he would then try his Success against the *Green Knight*. The Day being come, both Armies met, and the *Green Knight* behaved himself so valiantly,

y, that at the first Encounter he slew two Knights. Duke *Savary* seeing him so valiant General, came up to encounter him, without considering what was commonly said of him, which was, that he should never be vanquish'd of any, except one who had never suck'd the Breast of a Woman.

Let us now return to the two valiant Leaders, who fought long and fiercely; but the Duke ventur'd so far into the Enemies Hands, that when he thought to have retir'd, he cou'd not; so was taken Prisoner and brought to the *Green Knight*, whose Ransom could not be granted for any Gold or Treasure.

The *Green Knight* triumphed over the worthy Duke, causing him to be brought to his Pavillion, and reviled him in this Manner: Duke, now thou art my Vassal, and I have Power over thy Life; either give me thy Daughter Fezon to Wife, or else I'll take her by Force; and except thou yield to my Demand, I'll make thee finish thy Days miserably, and consume all *Aquitain* to Ashes. To which the Duke replied, Proud *Pagan*, the Gods protect me from thy Cruelty; for I wou'd rather rely on their Power than thine.

Says the *Green Knight*, I'm not ashamed to let you understand that thy Daughter's Beauty hath enthrall'd me, and I will recall my threatned Sentence, provided, that thou, within the Space of six Months, find out a Champion that shall vanquish me in single Combat; but if it happen that I prove Conqueror, then shalt thou give me thy Daughter.

to be my lawful Wife. These Conditions being agreed on, Duke *Savary* repaired to *Aquitain*, whither being come, he caused a Proclamation to be made of those Conditions, concerning his said Daughter; and the Truce taken for six Months, and Messengers were sent into all Countries, with the following Advertisement: That if there were any Man that dare encounter the *Green Knight*; for the Love of fair *Fezon*, he should lay down his Gage.

## C H A P. XI.

*How divers Knights arrived at Aquitain, at the solemn Just, to bear away the Love of the beauteous Lady Fezon. How Haufrey and Henry lay in Ambush to take away the Life of Valantine.*

**D**uring this time of Truce, King *Pepin* had overthrown King *Lampatris*, and the *Almains*, and having ended that War, return'd into *France*, where being told of Duke *Savary's* Advertisement; whereat the King, laughing, said, in the Presence of his Barons, Who is he amongst you that wou'd win fair *Fezon* for this Love; he must take upon him a Combat with the *Green Knight*, whom if he overcome, the Duke will not only give him his Daughter, but one half of his Possessions.

All the Knights view'd these Letters, yet no one would undertake the Enterprize, save only *Valentine*, who said to the King, Dread Sovereign, If it please you to give me leave, I will encounter this *Green Knight*, and will gladly undertake the Task: I have a great desire to leave *France*, for I long take in hand some tedious Journey to find out my Parents, and from whence I am descended. *Valentine*, said the King, I find thee willing to go to *Aquitain*, I freely give thee Leave, but on Condition, that after thou hast tried thy Manhood with the *Green Knight*, to return, if thou escape with Life, But e'er *Valentine* departed, fair *Eglantine* sent for him, and after making several Protestations of her Affection for him: He told her that being a poor fondling, was unworthy the Love of so Noble a Princess; but if he in his Travels should find his Birth answerable, she shou'd be the only choice he would make. So leaving poor *Eglantine* full of Grief, he departed with *Orson* for *Aquitain*.

Being on their Way, *Hansry* and *Henry* consulted together, joining to their aid a third, how they might lay in Ambush to set upon *Valentine* and *Orson*, the Place appointed, was a very large Forest through which they must pass. Not long after the Ambush was pitch'd, it chanced that *Valentine* came riding along, with *Orson* running by his Side; who coming near the Place where these Men lay, forth steps their Captain, named *Grygar*, accompanied with all his Troop, thinking to have surprized *Valentine*: Now this Captain lent him such a Blow, that the Sword

peirced quite through his Armour, insomuch as the Blood followed the Blow, and withal uttered these words, *Valentine*, either yeild thy self Captive, or receive thy Death, *Valentine*, as a Man amaz'd, drew his Sword, and gave him that first encountered him such a Blow on the Head, that he clave him to the Teeth: After that he betook him towards the rest, with such Violence, that at every stroak one fell before him. *Orson* perceiving his Brother thus to lay about him, began to rouze himself, and with his peircing Tallons, rent and tore all that came in his Way. *Valentine* seeing *Orson* thus bestir himself, held up his Bloody Sword, defending himself and offending his Enemies, that they all forsook them; but *Grygar* in a fierce manner assall'd *Valentine*, and he being too forward, plung'd himself into the Throng. Being thns begirt with his Enemies, he still behaved himself so Valiantly, that none durst lay hands upon him, till at last the bound him, and carried him away to a Castle standing in the midst of a Forrest, kept by a notable Thief, who was Cousin german to *Grygar*, and convey'd to a Dungeon, which griev'd him to the Heart, whilst his Enemies determine what shall be done to him; some were of Opinion to put him to Death; but *Grygar* would not yield thereto, but to keep him Prisoner till *Haufry* and *Henry* had received Tydings of their Proceedings. *Orson* never rested all that Night, but made the best of his way towards *Paris*, where he arrived the next Day: The King sat at Dinner, suddenly casting his Eyes about, espying *Orson*, whom when he saw, thought *Valentine* was not far off;

*Orson*

Orson ran through the Hall, making a lamentable Noise, looking very fierce on every Man he met, at last espying Grygar, run furiously at him, and gave him such a stroak, that he put out one of his Eyes, and had he not been rescued by a Valiant Prince, that sat at Table, he had never gone from that Place alive.

Orson upon this was brought before the King, who deminded to know the Cause of this Outrage. Orson answered by Signs that Grygar had slain Valentine; and withal closed his Fist, and put it to his Mouth in great Rage, in Token of Defiance. K. Pepin perceiving that the Wild man challeng'd Grygar to Fight him, imagin'd there might be some hidden Treason, so taking the Advice of his Nobles, it was resolved that Grygar should except the Challenge: Grygar hearing what the King had determined, was very sad, for he foresaw that the Treason would come to Light, therefore he went to him, and thus said, Mighty King, let me make one Request to your Majesty, that you would dismiss me from this dangerous Task; because the Match is unequal, being not a Man against a Man, but a Creature void of Sense. Grygar, says the King, if the Truth be on your side, you need not Fear, for you shall enter into the Field well Armed, again, you shall be well mounted, he on Foot; nor shall he bear any Weapon, you say the right is on your side, therefore maintain it and shew your Valour; for the Sentence of Combat may not be recalled.

## C H A P. XII.

*How Orson and Grygar fought, and  
Orson gain'd the Victory, Grygar con-  
fessed the Treason, for which he was  
hang'd, and Valentine delivered from  
the Dungeon.*



THE Place of Combat being appointed,  
Orson came, and at length Grygar, well  
mounted, tho' he expected nothing but Death,  
the King and his Nobles being assembled, the  
Judges were appointed, that no Wrong should  
be offered on either Side: So Grygar being en-  
ter'd

ter'd the List, and began to draw near to *Orson*, saying, Villain, thou hast offered me great wrong, in putting out one of my Eyes; but e'er I part, I'll make the acknowledge, that thou hast falsely accused me; but *Orson* shewed him his Nails, and gnash'd his Teeth, whereat *Grygar* set Spurs to his Horse and ran with great force against him, *Orson* gave back, whereby *Grygar* was disappointed of his Mark, and ran his Spear fast in the Earth, *Orson* taking this advantage, suddenly seized it, and having hold thereof, gave his Enemy such a stroak, that he astonish'd him. *Grygar* set Spurs to his Horse, and rid like a mad Man about the Field; *Orson* run after him and caught his Horse by the Fore-legs, and by main force threw them both to the Ground; and with the fall *Grygar* lost his Shield, which *Orson* seeing took it up, and put it on his own Back; then he came to *Grygar* and encountered him on Foot, insomuch that he lent him such blows, that he smote him to the Earth, afterwards he leaped upon him, then at the next Blow he struck off one of his Arms. *Grygar* having received all these Wounds, cried out most pitifully, and said he would confess his Treason.

Being brought before the King, he asked Pardon for his offence; and in Presence of all the Beholders, told him that *Haufry* and *Henry* was the chief Conspirators of this Plot, and by their Means he had taken *Valentine*, and put him in Prison. After the King heard this Tale, he commanded *Grygar* to be hang'd on the next Tree, to the great Joy of every one, except the two Brothers.

This being done; King *Pepin* attended with some of his Nobles, goes towards the Forest to save the Live of *Valentine*; *Orson* being with them, carried 'em to the Castle where he was Imprison'd: The Porters knowing the King barr'd the Gates, which when he perceived, commanded his attendance to enter by force, having so done, they went to the Dungeon where *Valentine* lay bound, and brought him to the King; who told him all that had happen'd, and how *Orson* had slain *Grygar*, and made him confess the Treason.

So here we leave King *Pepin* and the rest, and look upon *Valentine* and *Orson*, who are taking their Way to fight the *Green Knight*; after a long and tedious Journey, they at length arrived at *Aquitain*, the People flock'd from all Parts to see the unmanly shape of *Orson*; but *Valentine* seeing them come so fast, made him a Jacket of Steel; when *Orson* had it on, he was much offended thereat, but he feared *Valentine*, and wou'd do any thing he command-ed. *Valentine* beheld the City of *Aquitain* very earnestly, at last he espy'd a Fountain, thither he went, and getting from his Horse, laid down under a Tree, *Orson* was his Keeper all the while. But was sudenly awaked by the Trampling of a Horse, and looking about him, saw a Proud Knight, and withal so fierce and resolute, that he never asked Question of any Man; yet if he met any Man that did not salute him, he presently kill'd him: *Valentine* did not regard him, but *Orson* look'd fiercely on him. The Knight was enrag'd, and drawing near unto *Orson*, gave

gave him such a Blow that the Blood run out of his Mouth, which he perceiving, presently took the Knight and threw him to the Earth, and wou'd there have ended his Days, had not Valentine rescued him out of his Hands, and thus said, proud Knight, why hast thou smitten a poor Wild Man, that has not the use of his Tongue.

Proud Miscreant, reply'd the other, why didst thou not salute me? And withall drew forth a Glaive; Valentine seeing the Blow, drew forth his Sword, and struck the Knight with such Violence, that he killed him on the Spot. D. Savory hearing thereof was greatly displeased, for he was his Cousin, immediately commanded that Valentine and Orson should be brought before him; so being come into presence of the Duke, he began in this Manner: Friend, of whence are you? What Prince do you serve? Sir, said Valentine, I am a Knight, and owe my Duty and Service to the famous K. Pepin of France, and hither I am come to Combat with the Green Knight; as also to behold that beautiful Lady Fezon; wherefore I think it a Law of Equity, for Strangers to pass in safety. When the Duke heard Valentine say so; he said to him, Knight right well hast thou answered me; and seeing my Cousin hath come by this, more by Pride than Courage, I am right sorrowfull, and so pardon thy Deed. Go then to my Palace, salute my Daughter, as my Custome is to Strangers, before they aduenter their Persons in Battel with the Green Knight. The Duke went into the Castle, accompanied

nied with *Valentine* and *Orson*; having entered the Hall where the Knights where assembled, *Valentine* beheld the Lady *Fezon* sitting amongst them; he Saluted her thus, Dear Lady, may it please you to understand, that the mighty K. *Pepin of France* hath sent me hither, to present you the noblest Man on Earth, therefore Lady behold him; I assure you, that the *Green Knight* is not able to withstand his Force. To which the Lady unanswered, I thank the noble King for sending, and you for bringing him; but pray Sir, why is this worthy Champion no better Cloathed? Upon which *Valentine* related to her the whole Story, from the Beginning to the Ending, how he conquer'd him in the Wood: *Fezon* beheld him very wishfully, for she was in Love with him; when *Valentine* had ended his Speech, she presented him a Ring, and wish'd him success in the Combat.

This done the sat down to Dinner, amongst other Knights, *Fezon* still fixed her Eyes on *Orson*, and he upon her; but in the midst of their Feastings, the *Green Knight*, as his custom was, came thundering at the Gates, to see the Lady *Fezon*, and crying out with a loud Voice, have you any more Champions to fight me for the Love of this Lady, to which the D. said, I have now sixteen valiant Knights, then said he let me see them, then the *Green Knight* entered the Hall, sternly beholding all the Knights, at last said, Lords, eat, drink, and be merry, for To-morrow will be your last, for I will hang you on the Top of my Tree, as many before you has been serv'd.

*Orson*

Orson understood that this was the *Green Knight*, by whom so many Valiant Men had lost their Lives, began to whet his Teeth, suddenly leap'd from the Table, taking the *Green Knight* by the middle cast him to the Earth, that he lay for some time as if he had been Dead, which Action of Orson's caused much Laughter among the Knights there present, which so enraged the *Green Knight*, who was now recovered, that with Threats he left the Duke's Palace, protesting to hang *Orson* on a high Gibbet, and there his Beastly Corps shou'd hang for a Prey to the Birds of the Air.

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### C H A P. XIII.

*How Orson encounter'd the Green Knight ;  
also how Valentine attempted to fight  
him, but without Success.*

Orson perceiving the *Green Knight* displeased, and to threaten him, threw down his Hood, which *Valentine* told him, it was a Token that he challeng'd him to Combat on the Morrow. The *Green Knight* enraged hereat, swore by *Mahomet*, that ere the Morrow Sun was set, he would hang him on a Tree higher than any of the rest ; and with these Words left the Duke's Castle, and betook himself to his Pavillion.

They passed the rest of the Night in Merriments, and so went to Bed. Morning being come, they all went into the Hall, where it was agreed

agreed, that *Galeram*, a worthy Knight of *France*, should be the first that fought the *Green Knight*; who no sooner saw him approach, but he set Spairs to his Horse, and encounter'd the famous *Galeram* so fiercely, that he smote him to the Earth, and after hang'd him on a Tree, as he had done many before. *Orson* perceiving this, made Signs that he would fight him presently; but *Valentine*, by Signs, told him he would go and try his own Strength first on him, and taking Leave of the beauteous Lady *Fezon*, he mounted his Horse, and took his Way towards the Tent. When the *Green Knight* espied him, he was more fearful of him than of the rest, wherefore he said, Sir Knight, hearken to me, on yonder Tree there hangs a green Shield, in which remaineth such Virtue, that until some Knight can fetch it from thence, I can never be overcome; and further, I assure thee, except he be the Son of a King, and such a one as never suck'd the Breast of a Woman, I can never be vanquish'd.

At these Words, *Valentine* with a loud Voice spake thus, Whosoever I am, I will not depart hence 'till I have fough't you. Upon which the *Green Knight* mounted his Horse immediately, and both run the Course with such exceeding Fury, that their Spears were shiver'd in many Pieces; after this they drew their Swords, and began a most bloody and desperate Fight, which continued so long, that the Day began to shut in, and both grew weary: When the *Green Knight*, in a haughty Manner, told *Valentine*, 'Twas proper for them to leave off the Fight 'till To-morrow; and go, says he, to *Aquitaine*, and report

that

that I esteem thee the most valiant Knight that I ever encounter'd, but meet me in the Morning, and then we will end the Combat.

*Valentine* accepted this Offer, and so returned to the City, where he was with Joy received by Duke Savary, the Lady *Fezon*, but more particularly by *Orson*, who ran and caught him in his Arms; being come into the Palace, the Duke demanded what Tydings from the *Green Knight*? Sir, saith *Valentine*, he resteth in his Pavillion, and, I think, he is of that Strength, that there is not a Man living able to vanquish him. *Valentine*, quoth the Duke, you have escaped well, for never did any return; wherfore you have proved yourself a valiant Knight. Having ended the Conference with the Duke, *Valentine* was unarm'd, and conducted to the Chamber of the Lady *Fezon*.

By this time Supper drew on, and the Duke taking his Place at the Table, caused *Valentine* to be set on his left Hand, for the Duke honour'd him to the highest Degree: After Supper *Valentine* withdrew himself to his Chamber, and the *Green Knight* rested in his Pavillion, where we will leave him, and speak of *Valentine*, who being in his Chamber, made many Complaints.

## C H A P. XIV.

• *How Valentine sent Orson on the Morrow to fight the Green Knight; and how Orson overcame him.*

**V**alentine having seriously considered that it was impossible for him to vanquish the *Green Knight*, concludes it more proper to put *Orson* into his Armour, and send him on the Morrow to try the Combat; which when by Signs he had let him know, he was exceedingly rejoiced, but denied taking *Valentine's Horse* and Armour, desiring only a Club, such a one as he was accustomed to. *Valentine* seeing this, told him, that he must put on the same Armour, and ride on the same Horse, for that the Knight should not know but that it was *Valentine* that came against him; to which *Orson* agreed: But before he took Horse, he went and took Leave of the Lady *Fezon*, and so rode directly to the Pavillion of the *Green Knight*, and smote the Top thereof with his Spear, in Token of Defiance. The *Green Knight* being moved at this rough Salutation, swore by *Mahomet*, that he would fetter his Pride ere the Evening; so mounted his Steed, and couching his Spear, they ran the first Course with such Force, that both Horse and Man fell to the Ground; from whence having recovered themselves, drew their Swords, and laid one at another fiercely.

The *Green Knight* being fired with Anger, smote *Orson* such a Blow, that he cut a Piece of his Shield quite away, and wounded him deeply, (with the Fierceness of the Stroke his Sword fell out of the Hand). *Orson* seeing the Blood run down, took the Giant such a Pat on his Head, that he enter'd the Flesh, and his Sword sliding from his Head, took his Arm so powerfully, that the Blood flowed in Abundance; but the *Green Knight*, by Virtue of a Sovereign Balsam which he always carried about with him, cured it in an Instant.

Upon this *Orson* threw away his Armour and Weapons, and suddenly ran upon him, and cast him on the Ground, and held him so down, that the *Green Knight* did yield to his Mercy; *Orson* not regarding his Submission, would have taken away his Life, had not *Valentine* come at the very Instant and prevented him. You see, says *Valentine*, that you are in the Hands of your Enemy, wherefore I think it fit that you suffer present Death, and be hanged on the highest Branch of yonder Tree, except you agree to these Conditions: That you renounce Paganism: Go with me to *France*, and tell King *Pepin*, that by *Valentine* and *Orson* you were overcome in single Combat. To all which he readily agreed.

Then *Valentine* made Signs to *Orson* to let him rise; being upon his Feet, he requested *Valentine* to send him to the Tree, and if he bring away the Shield there fastned, then I am asur'd ne is the Man that should conquer me: *Orson* accordingly did; which when the *Green Knight* saw, saw, he threw himself at his Feet, and would

have kissed them. I am well assured that you are the bravest Knight in the World, and moreover, you are Son to both a King and Queen, which will be more amply confirm'd by the Brazen-Head, now in the Custody of my Sister Clerimond, whom I offer you in Marriage, as the most hardiest Knight in the World.

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## C H A P. XV.

*How Valentine caused Orson to be christened; and how an Angel appeared unto Valentine, and of the Charge she gave him.*

THE Green Knight having made this Motion of the Marriage of his Sister, gave unto Valentine a Ring to carry unto her; which Ring Valentine accepted, and vowed never to rest till he had seen the Lady. After this the Green Knight gave Command throughout all his Host, that every Man should depart from the Confines of Aquitain, without doing any further Damage.

Then Valentine and Orson took and led him as a Prisoner into the City, which was no little Joy to Duke Savary and his Nobles. The Green Knight being brought to the Duke, began to say thus, My Lords, you owe much Honour unto the Knight that hath conquer'd me, for he can be no less than Son to a King. Truly, says the Duke,

## Valentine and Orson. 63

Duke, he seeins to be no less by his Valour; wherefore I think it my Part to honour him with my utmost Endeavours. The Duke commanded his Daughter's Presence, and then said to her, Daughter, behold here the *Green Knight*, and this valiant Knight that *Valentine* hath brought from the Court of King *Pepin*, who hath freed us of our Fears: Therefore, my Pleasure is, that he make a Conquest of your Love. To which the Lady replied, My Lord, your Promise is already past, and the Day of my Deliverance is come, therefore I receive him as my lawful Spouse. Then the Duke got a Priest, and had them married out of Hand.



The Day being past with great Banqueting  
and Solemnity, the Night approach'd, and even-  
D 2 ry

ry Man betook him to Rest: And in the dead time of the Night, *Valentine* had the Apparition of an Angel appeared unto him, saying, *Valentine, know this, that in the Morning thou speedily depart the Land, take along with thee Orson, and without further Delay, get thee into the Castle of Ferragus, where you will find the Lady Clerimond, by whom thou shalt understand of whence thou art descended.*

*Valentine* ruminating upon his Vision, it drove him into a thousand Fears, and in great Melancholy passed the Night: When Day broke, he caused *Orson* to rise, and they went to the Palace; not long after the Duke came with the *Green Knight* and the rest of his Nobles, and soon after the *Green Knight* was baptised according to his Promise, and *Valentine* received the Ring to deliver to his Sister, the which he put on his Finger. So having taken Leave of the whole Court, *Orson* and he took their Way towards the Castle of *Ferragus*, and the *Green Knight* for France.

About this time *Blandiman*, Squire to the distressed Lady *Bellisant*, was arrived at King *Pepin's* Court.

## C H A P. XVI.

*How King Pepin came to know that Valentine and Orson were his Nephews; and how the Green Knight submitted himself according to his Promise.*



**B**landiman having deliver'd his Message, the King demanded where his Sister was; My Lord, saith Blandiman, I'll relate to you the whole Story: Your Sister, who was unjustly banished, in her Journey, was deliver'd of two Sons in the Forest of Orleans; while she sent me for Help, one of them was carried away by a Bear into the Wood, she knew not whither, she followed it so long, that at last I found her in a Swoon upon the Ground; but she coming to herself, told what had happen'd; so I hasted

to the Tree where I left her, but could not find the other Child: And thus, Worthy King, I have told you the whole Story. The King replied, What thou tell'est me, *Blandiman*, fills me full of a thousand Imaginations: This *Valentine* and *Orson*, whom I have had in my Court, must be the Empress my Sister's Sons: One I found myself in the Wood, whom I carefully bred up to Man's Estate; and the other, being utterly wild and savage, was conquer'd by his Brother, and brought to Court.

At these Tydings the Court was joyful, only *Haufrey* and *Henry*, whose Hatred was implacable against *Valentine*. But to keep up to the Story, *Blandiman* hearing the King speak so particular of the Children, took the Liberty to ask the King, if he knew into what Country they were gone? to whom the King made Answer, That they took their Way towards *Aquitain*, to fight a Champion called the *Green Knight*, for the Love of the Lady *Fezon*, only Daughter to Duke *Savary*, Prince of that Country.

Soon after the *Green Knight* arrived at *Paris*. The King seeing him in Armour, marvell'd thereat, and demanded the Cause of his so appearing, who he was, and from whence he came? I am that *Pagan Knight*, that for the Love of the Lady *Fezon*, Daughter to the Duke of *Aquitain*, have for one whole Year holden him in Subjection, and at the same time condition'd with him, that if he could find out a Knight, within the Space of six Months, that could vanquish me in single Combat, I would raise my Siege, and depart out of his Territories; but on the contrary,

trary, he should deliver me his Daughter to be my lawful Wife.

At last assailed me two worthy Knights, the one named *Valentine*, the other *Orson*; *Valentine* fought me one whole Day, Night coming on we were forced to give over without putting an End to the Combat; the next Morning his Fellow, *Orson*, armed in *Valentine's* Armour, enter'd the Field in a most fierce and disdainful Manner, against whom I addressed myself, but to no Purpose, for in the End he overcame me, and would have taken away my Life, had not *Valentine* come in upon us, and rescued me, upon Condition, that I should renounce *Paganism* and be baptized, and then surrender myself at your Command, and to be dealt with as your Majesty shall think proper.

The King having heard all this long Story, made this Answer, Welcome to us, live with us in our Court, for I freely grant you your Life, and promise you, that if you tarry with us in our Country, I will endow thee with many fair Lands and Possessions. The King shewing himself thus gracious, demanded of him where these Knights was that had conquer'd him; quoth the *Green Knight*, I left them both at *Aquitain*, with the valiant Duke *Savary*.

And thus, by the Words of *Blandiman* and the *Green Knight*, the King came to have Knowledge, that *Valentine* and *Orson* were his Nephews, and the Sons of the Emperor of *Greece*; the Tydings of which he ordains to be proclaimed through the whole World, and resolve to take a Journey himself to *Constantinople*, to carry the Particulars.

C H A P.

The HISTORY of  
C H A P. XVII.

*How King Pepin hastens to Greece, to bear these Tydings; and how he found Constantinople besieged by the Soldan of Ægypt.*

KING *Pepin* departed into *Greece*, and arrived at *Rome*, where the *Pope* received him joyfully; but as he sat at Dinner, News was brought, that the Soldan of *Egypt* had besieged *Constantinople*; whereupon he craved Aid of the *Pope*, who readily granted it: An Army was imminedately raised, and marched with King *Pepin* to *Constantinople*, where he found the City closely begirt with the Soldan's Army; but when the Emperor heard Relief was come, he took Courage. But the Soldan with big Words encounter'd them, not only to subdue *Constantinople*, but *Rome* itself. But King *Pepin* sent Letters to the Emperor to make a Sally when he gave the On-set.

The Soldan put his Men in Order to discover the Number of his Enemies. The *Green Knight*, with the like Intent, perceiving them coming by the Side of the Hill, addressed himself to the Encounter, broke his Launce against the foremost; then began a dreadful Combat, and in the End he put them to Flight. King *Pepin* upon this attack'd the Soldan's Army with great Fury; and *Myllon Dauglar* slew the King of *Quile* and three others.

This

This made the Soldan and his Men come up, and furiously set upon Dauglar and dismounted him; had not the *Green Knight* rescued him, he had been slain.

The *Green Knight*, and other Champions, made a terrible Slaughter, so that the Saracens began to fly; but the King of *Sclavonia* coming with fifty thousand fresh Men, restored the Battle, which continued bloody and doubtful. But King *Pepin* and the Emperor, finding they were over-number'd, thought fit to retire into the City; and there, being begirt with a close Siege, endured great Famine: Where we must leave them, to follow *Valentine* and *Orson*, who for the Love of *Clerimond*, and the Sake of finding out their Parents, have adventured as you have already heard.

## C H A P. XVIII.

*How Valentine and Orson arrived at the Castle wherein Clerimond was; and how the Brazen-Head informed them of their Parents.*

After many Days Travel, at last *Valentine* and *Orson* lighted upon an Island, in which stood a Castle covered with Brads, that it drove *Valentine* into Suspicion, that this was it whereunto the *Green Knight* had directed him; and approaching it, he demanded who was the Owner

of

of that Castle? Answer was returned, That the fair Lady *Clerimond*, Sister to the Giant *Ferragus*; and built by a *Saracen*, and amongst all other his excellent Works, had placed great Rarities in one particular Chamber of it.



Amongst many Things, it was also told unto *Valentine*, That in the Chamber stood an excellent Pillar, on which stood a Head of Brass, made by the Art of Negromancy, that gave Answer to any Thing that was demanded. *Valentine* hearing this strange Relation, was persuaded that this was the Castle wherein the *Green Knight* told him he should find his Sister; so, without Delay, he and *Orson* rid up to the Gates, where

think-

thinking to enter, they were resisted by ten sturdy Knights, that kept the Gate.

When they saw *Valentine* and *Orson* offer to enter, they said unto them, Whatever you be, withdraw yourselves back, for none enters here without the Leave of a Maiden, to whom we belong. Why, quoth *Valentine*, go ask her, whether it be her Pleasure we enter, or not? Hereupon one of them went to *Clerimond*, and told her, there was two Knights, that seem fierce and courageous, desires to enter your Castle. Descend, quoth she, while I go to a Window to take a View of them, and let the Gates be safely kept. Then she look'd out of the Window, and said, What are you, that dare offer to enter my Castle without Leave? Lady, quoth *Valentine*, I would gladly speak with that Head of Brass which is within this Castle, and, as I understand, resolves Doubts. Knight, quoth me, if you have any certain Token, either from King *Ferragus*, or the *Green Knight*, you may enter, not otherwise, or try your Fortune, in single Combat, with the Senescal of this Place.

This Choice chose *Valentine*, rather than to bewray the Ring which the *Green Knight* had given him to present to his Sister. The Lady, seeing his resolute Hardiness, fell in love with him, and presently went into the Chamber where the Brazen-Head stood, and said, What is that Knight of Courage; that would so gladly enter his Castle? was answer'd, She should not know till the Knight was present. *Clerimond*, at this Answer, seemed very sorrowful, for she was greatly in Love with *Valentine*.

## C H A P. XIX.

*How Valentine discovers Clerimond's Love, how he fights with Senescal and overcome, and enters the Castle by force.*

Clerimond hereupon, sent for the Senescal, and told him, that this Knight would enter the Castle by Force. The Senescal said, Lady, if he be so hardy to attempt it, I shall quickly make him Repent it.

So mounting his Horse, he issued out of the Gate; and the Lady got into the Window to see the Combat, which was very Fierce and Doubtful, till after three Careers, in which Valentine had the better every time, he threw both Horse and Man to the Earth: The Senescal finding himself in Danger, said to Valentine, Knight, I know not from whence you are, but never in my Life found I a Man of thy valour, and withal give thee leave to enter this Castle; but upon this Condition, that you speak not unto the Lady Clerimond, quoth Valentine, I will not depart hence till I have spoken with her, and the Brazed Head: The Lady all this while standing at the Window, at last said to one of her Maids: See how indiscreet this Senescal is, to fight with such a valiant Knight, who long since might have taken away his Life. When Valentine saw the Pride of the Senescal, and that he stood out with him, being his Prisoner, he preferred another Course, and gave him so deadly

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stroak, that he ran him quite through the Body and tumbled from his Horse to the Ground, at which the Lady Clerimond was exceeding joyful, and commanded them to set open the Gates, and Valentine to be brought up unto her, and thus said, Sir Knight you are welcome, for I never saw a more valiant and courageous Man, enter my Castle, for it appears by your Valour, that you are descended from some Royal Blood.

Fair Lady, replies Valentine, neither my self nor my Companion ever knew of what Extraction we were: He was nourish'd by a Beast in the Forest, and lived there like a Wild-man, till I conquered him by my Sword: Wherefore Lady, thus far have I travell'd to get Knowledge of my Parents, but chiefly to gain the Love of you, being so fair a Lady.

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## C H A P XX.

*How Valentine shew'd Clerimond the Green Knights Ring, which he gave him, and how he questioned with the Brazen-Head, concerning his Descent.*

Valentine having purchased his Enterance, at last shewed the Ring that the Green-Knight had given him, upon which Clerimond told him, That he need not have indanger'd himself so much to get Access into this Castle, had he shew'd that at first.

When Dinner was ended, she took him by the Hand and led him into the Chamber where the Brazen head stood: Being come to the Door, they found it guarded on one side by a grim ugly shap'd Villain with a Club of Iron on his Neck, and on the other side stood a most fierce Lion: *Valentine* perceiving them to make resistance, demanded of *Clerimond* the meaning, who said, Those two are to keep the Door; that none may enter without my Knowledge.

Lady, says *Valentine*, I mean to try my Fortune with the Lion, and by main Strength caught him about the Body, whereat the Lion forsook him: *Orson* too assail'd the Villain, and e'er he could lift up his Club, he took him by the Middle so strongly, that he threw him against the Wall; took away his Club, and gave him such a Blow, that he tumbld him on the Ground, and had it not been for the Lady *Clerimond*, he had slain him on the spot. Being thus both vanquish'd, they enter'd the Chamber, wherein they might see Rubies, Diamonds, and a multitude of precious Stones: Within four Pilliars of Jesper stood the Brazen Head; *Valentine* fixed his Eyes chiefly upon the Brazen Head, at lenght when all was silent, it began to speak in this manner. ‘Thou famous Knight of Royal Parentage, art called *Valentine* the Valiant, of whom it may be truly said, there was never the like came before me: Thou art he, who only deserves the Lady *Clerimond*, thou art Son to the Emperor of *Greece*, and thy Mother's Name is *Bellisant*, Sister to King *Pepin* of *France*, who by wrong Suggestions is banish'd her Country, and Husband’s

band's Bed ; know this, thy Mother is in *Portugal*, in the Castle of *Ferragus*, who hath kept her this twenty Years : King *Pepin* of *France* is thy Uncle, and the Wild-Man who accompanies thee, is thy Brother ; you two were delivered by the Empress *Bellisant*, in the Forest of *Orleans*, and being brought forth thy Companion was taken away by a ravenous Bear, who nourished him in the Woods among her Whelps : for thy part, thou was found the very same Day, by King *Pepin*, who has nourished thee tenderly ever since. Moreover, thy Brother shall never have the use of his Tongue, till a Thread be cut under the same.

*Kalentine* marking well what the Head had declared, fell upon the Bosom of his Brother *Orson*, and they embraced each other ; and also told the Lady he would Marry her, on condition she would renounce *Mahometism*, as her Brother the *Green Knight* had ; to which she answer'd, she wou'd be obedient in every Respect, during her Life, to his Will.

Upon these Tidings, the Joy of the Inhabitants was very great ; but all their gladness was suddenly eclipsed, by the Treachery of her Brother *Ferragus*, as hereafter shall be shewn.

## C H A P. XXI.

*How Pacolet the Inchanter informed Giant Ferragus of all that passed between Valentine and his Sister.*



**N**OW you shall understand that within this Castle where Clerimond was, dwelt a Dwarf, whom she had brought up from a Child, named *Pacolet*, being of more Wit than Stature, and who had by Study, got a great insight into Negromancy, by which Art, he composed a little Horse of Wood, in the Head of which he had so Artificially fixed a Pin, that every time

time he mounted him, he would turn the Pin towards the Place he would go to, and suddenly he would be there without Danger: This Pacolet, observing what had passed in the Castle, took his Horse and came to *Portugal*, and related the Story to *Ferragus*. Which when *Ferragus* heard, he was exceeding angry, both against his Sister and *Valentine*; against her for Marrying a Christian Knight, and against him for taking her to Wife, swearing by the Gods to take revenge on them both.

But all this he dissembled to *Pacolet*, bidding him bear this Message to *Clerimond*, that *Valentine*, who shall have her to Wife, is right welcome, and not long e'er I will come with my Nobles, and then shall their Nuptials be royally Solemnized: So *Pacolet* mounted his Horse, and was in an Instant, in the Presence of his Lady, and told her what he had done, and what her Brother said. At this the Lady stood amaz'd, but at last answer'd him thus, I am angry thou didst not tell me of thy departure, for thou should'st have enquired for a Christian Woman, one that has had her abiding in my Brother's Castle.

## C H A P. XXII.

*How Pacolet made a Journey into Portugal to see the Lady Bellifant, Valentine's Mother.*

THE Lady having ended her Tale, *Pacolet* said, Lady, I shall for your sake make another Journey into *Portugal*, and before to Morrow Night bring you Tidings, whether she be there or no, at this *Valentine* much wonder'd, till the Lady told him he could do it by his Art. Then calling *Orson* to him, cut the Thread under his Tongue, which being done, he spake presently, and related the Story of his Life. *Pacolet* according to his Promise perform'd his Journey, and brought *Valentine* Word, how he had seen his Mother in good Health, which made him exceeding glad.

But these Joys lasted not long, for soon after arrived *Ferragus*, at the Castle of *Clerimond*, and tho' at first he desembled his Treachery, and desired to be Baptiz'd, as his Brother the *Green Knight* had been; he still had a secret Mischief in his Heart.

*Valentine* believing what he had spoken to him, said, it is reported to me, that within your Castle, for the Space of 20 Years, you have maintain'd a Christian Woman, who is Mother unto me, whom I would gladly see, her Name is *Bellifant*, Sister to King *Pepin* of *France*, and Wife to the Emperor of *Greece*.

By

By Mahomet, said Ferragus, you say true, and you shall go along with me into Portugal, so shall you be inform'd, whether she be the Lady you seek after, or no. Gramarcy, quoth Valentine; and so Ferragus left him, and said to Clerimond, Sister, I desire your Advancement more than any thing on Earth, and am glad of so worthy and valiant a Knight for your Espousal; wherefore, to knit up all at once, my Desire is, that you would go with me into Portugal, and there, with the Consent and Applause of all my Nobles, we intend highly to solemnize your Nuptial Day.

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## C H A P. XXIII.

*How Valentine and Orson were betray'd  
by Ferragus, and committed to Prison.*

SOON after this they all embarked; but Ferragus fell from all his former Words of Comfort, and began to plot the Death of Valentine and Orson: In the dead-time of the Night, he caused them to be bound in Chains. Now when Clerimond saw what was done to her Love, she fell into an extream Agony, that with very Sorrow she would have slain herself, or else violently have leap'd over-board into the Sea.

Ferragus seeing her in this Fit, gave Command, that she should be attended by some of his Barons; and, that she should not so much as speak to the Prisoners. Thus were their Joys sud-

suddenly blasted ; and all this while are on their Way towards *Portugal*, and shortly after arrived at the Castle of *Ferragus*.

They were no sooner arrived, but News was brought to *Bellisant*, that two Christian Knights were brought Prisoners to the Castle. She had a great Desire to see them, but *Ferragus* opposed it, and commanded the Jaylor to commit them to a Dungeon, to be kept with Bread and Water, and to be lashed twice a Day, except they renounce their Religion.

After *Ferragus* had committed them, he went into the Palace, and called for his Sister *Clerimond*, and reproved her sharply for lamenting the Knights that had been the Overthrow of her Brother the *Green Knight*, and who were of a Faith contrary to her's : But this only served to increase her Sorrow; which being observed by *Bellisant* to be immoderate, she asked the Reason; when she told her, That the two Knights, Prisoners, was her Children; and, how *Ferragus* betray'd them, under the Pretence of renouncing his Faith.

## CHAP. XXIV.

*How Pacolet comforted the two Ladies.*

**W**Hilst the two Ladies were bewailing their hard Fate, *Pacolet* entered; to whom *Clerimond* said, What have I done to thee, that thou shouldest deprive me of all my Joys? Lady,

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quoth Pacolet, be not displeased at me, for I am ignorant of all that hath befallen you; I here vow all my Service to you and Valentine, while Life doth last.

Friend, quoth Bellisant, if you can but free my two Children, I will recompence thy Labour. Lady, quoth Pacolet, take no more Care, for ere long you will perceive my crafty Work take Effect by my Art, that you shall have Cause to remember me while you have a Day to live.

## C H A P. XXV.

*How Pacolet released Valentine and  
Orson out of Prison, with their Mother  
and fair Clerimond.*

Erragus made a great Feast among his Nobles, they passed the Day in such Reveling and Mirth, that the Night growing late, they betook themselves to Rest. Pacolet was still upon the Watch to perform his Promise; and coming to the Door of the Dungeon where the Lady's two Sons lay bound, as soon as he touch'd the Door, the Locks broke and flew open. The two Princes, hearing the Door open, expected it to be the Taylor come to kill them; but Pacolet soon eased them of their Fears, saying, Follow me, and before To-morrow Sun I shall bring you both unto your Mother. Great was the Joy of these two renowned Persons.

After

After this *Pacolet* led them to the Chamber where the two Ladies sat in Mourning. *Orson* desired *Pacolet* to open the Door where *Ferragus* lay, that he might slay him; but *Clerimond* persuaded him to the contrary, telling him, that if he murther'd him, we shall lose the Love of my Brother the *Green Knight*.

At this very time *Pacolet*, by his Art, had opened the Gates of the Castle, and they followed him down to one of the Ports, where he had provided a Ship, and having a fair Gale, they speedily arrived at the Castle of *Clerimond*: Whither being come, they refreshed themselves with Pleasure.

## CHAP. XXVI.

*How Valentine and Orson, having escaped from the Castle of Ferragus, sailed with the Ladies to Aquitain.*

**V**alentine, fearing the Return of *Ferragus*, might put them in fresh Consternation, got a Fleet ready in the Port, and soon after, with his Mother, *Clerimond*, *Orson* and *Pacolet*, set Sail for Constantinople, to see his Father the Emperor.

When the Jailer that had them in keeping at *Ferragus's* Castle, went to carry them their Bread and Water, he was much surpriz'd to see them gone, and immediately ran and told the

King,

King, desiring Mercy ; but what chiefly enraged *Ferragus* was, the Tydings another Messenger brought, which were, That the Empress *Bellisant* and *Clerimond* were likewise escaped, which so incens'd him, that he was ready to tear out his Eyes ; and calling for his ponderous Armour, which must needs have been so, he being at least fourteen Foot high, issued out with his Nobles, to look after the Runaways : But *Pacolet's* Art had render'd his Journey in vain, so he returns to his Palace, and swore by *Mahomet*, he would take *Clerimond* and her Companions, or he would make Christendom tremble.

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## C H A P. XXVII.

How *Ferragus* assembles a mighty Army, and sails to Aquitain to revenge himself of Valentine and his Sister *Clerimond*.

*Ferragus* got ready a great Fleet, and scoured the Seas to take *Valentine*, but was forced, after a fruitless Search, to return Home to his Palace. Whilst *Valentine's* Company arrived at *Aquitain*, and not caring to discover themselves to the Duke *Savary*, lodged themselves in a private House, for *Orson* knowing the Inconstancy of the fair Sex, had a Mind to try the Lady *Fezon* e'er he marry'd her ; and therefore taking the Habit of a Knight-Errant, and making *Pacolet* his Page, he enter'd the Hall of

Duke

Duke Savary's Palace, and asked him, whether he would take him into his Service? to which the Duke answered, (not knowing *Orson*) That he would accept of it very willingly, and would reward him liberally; and thereupon presented him with a Purse of Money, and withal, made him a Champion of the Court.

*Orson* soon, by his courteous Behaviour, got the Love of every body, and was much respected by the Lady *Fezon*, who did not know him to be *Orson*, because of his Speech. Of these Passages *Orson*, at convenient times, would acquaint *Valentine*, *Clerimond* and his Mother *Bellifant*, who were greatly rejoiced therewith; but this Joy was interupted by *Ferragus*'s proclaiming of War against the Duke of *Aquitain*.

*Ferragus* soon after arrived with a great Army, and Duke Savary prepared to receive him, and raise the Siege with all his armed Men, amongst whom were *Valentine*, *Orson* and *Pacolet*, unknown to the Duke.

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## C H A P. XXVIII.

*How the Duke was taken Prisoner in the Battle; and how, by the Help of Pacolet, Orson sets him free.*

**D**uke Savary began the Battle with great Fierceness next Morning, which proved very bloody, in which adventuring too far, he was

was surrounded by *Ferragus's* Men, which struck such Amazement to the Christians, that they would have forsaken the Field, 'till *Valentine* and *Orson* seeing them thus to waver, came up to them with all Speed, and cried to them, Shew yourselves Men; run not away in the Time of Extremity.

These two Knights having thus done speaking, the People began to gather up their Forces, and began the Fight anew. *Valentine* was in the thickest, hewing forth his Way with his Sword; whilst *Orson*, on the other Hand, was not idle, who had sworn to free the Duke from Captivity, or leave his Body among the rest. *Pacolet* the Magician, promised *Orson* his Assistance; upon which he put Spurs to his Horse, and ran violently through the thickest of the Battle; and being past Danger, threw away his own Shield, and hung about his Neck the Shield of a Saracen, passed through the thickest without Opposition, and came to the Pavillion where the Duke was Prisoner; (but *Pacolet* perceiving the Guards to be numerous, by his Art he cast them into a deadly Sleep) and approaching the Duke, *Orson* said, Mount this Horse, I come to free thee from *Ferragus*; if you doubt what I am, I am the Knight which in your Hall demanded Wages of you. Knight, quoth the Duke, for this Service I will give you my Daughter *Fezon* in Marriage: Indeed I had given her to a Knight, but he was wild and savage, and had not the Use of his Tongue; but by his long Absence, I fear he has won some other Lady. This said, they all three took their Way through the Enemy's Camp.

*Valentine* all this while was demanding what was become of his Brother *Orson*? but found none could give any Tydings of him; and rushing through the thicket of the Fight, at length loit his Horse: *Ferragus* seeing him so valiant a Knight, seized on him as Prisoner, bound him Hand and Foot, and so carried him to his Pavillion.

*Orson*, *Pacolet* and the Duke returning, set upon him, *Orson* crying out, Let him not escape us; and therewithal put Spurs to his Horse, and ran so fiercely again *Ferragus*, that both he and *Valentine* fell to the Earth, and by his Means was released, and mounted on a fresh Horse, and so returned to their Friends.

When the Christians saw the Duke at Liberty, with joyful Hearts they cried out aloud, Long live the Duke of *Aquitain*: Which made the *Saracens* raise the Siege, and fled.

The Battle being thus ended, *Valentine* and *Pacolet* returned to their Lodgings, but *Orson* went along with the Duke to his Palace. Being come, he called his Nobles, and thus said, I give you to understand, that above all Men living I am the most beholden to this Knight, both for my Life and Liberty: And as for you, Daughter, I would have you accept of *Gregory* (for so *Orson* called himself) for your Husband; to which the Nobles willingly agreed. *Orson* hearing this, still concealed himself, 'till he had further tried the Constancy of the Lady *Fezon*.

## C H A P. XXIX.

How Orson tries the Constancy of Fezon,  
and then marries her.

Orson told the Duke, that he would endeavour to gain the Lady Fezon's Love; and so going to the Chamber where she was, he took her by the Hand, and said, Lady, your Beauty hath so inflarg'd my Heart, that without your Love, I am an unfortunate Man. Knight, said she, all your Labour is lost, for I am promised to the wild Knight, he that kill'd the *Green Knight*; which, tho' it pleased him, as being *Orson*, yet he seemed to be much against it, and used many Perswasions to the contrary.

But finding his Perswasions had no Effect, was very joyful; and going to the Duke, told him, That his Daughter had given him an utter Denial, and was resolved to marry none but he that conquer'd the *Green Knight*: But the Duke said, he would force her to marry him. So Orson returned him Thanks, and went to *Valentine*, to whom he related the whole Proceedings.

So the next Day *Valentine* and *Orson* went to Court, and *Orson* put on the Jaket in which he first enter'd into *Aquitain*. *Orson* saluted the Duke, and then addressed himself to the Lady Fezon, who received him with a smiling Countenance.

Then *Orson* told the Duke and his Nobles all their Adventures, and what the Brazen Head

had related to them. I am glad to hear (quoth the Duke) that your Descent is of Royal Blood; and forthwith he married his Daughter to *Orson Valentine* prepared to depart for *Constantinople*; but before he went, the Marriage of *Orson* was celebrated, in the Presence of the Empress *Bellissant* and the Lady *Clerimond*, to the Satisfaction of the whole Court.

And in this Assembly was a Spy from *Ferragus*, who informed him of all that was acted; upon which he vowed Revenge to them all, but especially on *Pacoler*, for freeing his Sister *Clerimond* and the two Christian Knights.

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## CHAP. XXX.

*How Ferragus was reinforced by the Aid  
of King Tompart and Adrimain the  
Enchanter.*

**F**erragus hoping to revenge himself, sent a Messenger to King *Tompart*, of whom he desired Aid against his Enemies, and to bring along with him the Enchanter *Adrimain*. In the mean while, *Valentine* took his Leave of all his Friends, and recommended *Clerimond* to the Care of the Duke, for whom his Heart bled to part with. *Clerimond* was as loth to part from him, she clasp'd him in her Arms, but was not able to speak, nor would she admit of any Comfort, tho' he promised to return speedily.

CHAP.

## C H A P. XXXI.

*The Empress's doleful Tale at the Departure of Valentine to Constantinople.*



A Las, my Son ! now will it come to light,  
that I have been falsely banished my Husband's Bed : But yet commend me to the Emperor, and also to my Brother King Pepin, and say to them in my Behalf, That I am an innocent Lady : And if there be such a Man breathing that will speak to the contrary, fight him for me, and justly maintain my unspotted Chastity. Mother, said he, all this I shall perform ; and I will send Pacolet to bring you Tydings of all that shall happen.

Now Pacolet and Valentine mounted the Wooden-Horse, and ere the next Day at Noon, they were in Sight of Constantinople, and came that Night to the great Hall, where the Emperor and King Pepin sat both at Supper; the Green Knight sitting at the Table, arose and said, Great Emperor! here is that renowned Knight Valentine, and your natural Son. Upon which they arose from Table and embraced him, but chiefly King Pepin and the Emperor his Father, who was greatly ashamed of having banished his unspotted and guiltless Wife.

Exceeding Joy was heard round about the City, and People came from all Parts to see the Emperor's Son. Valentine in the Presence of his Father and all his Nobles, challeng'd any one who dared to impeach his Mother of Disloyalty.

### C H A P. XXXII.

*How Valentine and the Green Knight  
were taken Prisoners at the Battle of  
Constantinople, by the Soldan Moradin.*

When the Emperor perceived his Son to be moved for the Dishonour done to his Mother, said thus; My Son, thou canst not now revenge thyself on the Author of thy Mother's Wrongs, that being already perform'd by

a Mer-

a Merchant, in the Presence of King *Pepin* thy Uncle, and myself: At his Death he confessed the whole Treason; and since that time I have sent Messengers into all Nations in Search of her. *Valentine* replied, Yesterday I both saw and spoke with her in *Aquitain*; telling him besides, that *Pacolet* brought him thither by his Art.

The Emperor, hearing such good News, caused great Triumphs through the City, the Noise of which alarmed the *Saracens*, which made them more closely begirt it, famishing up all the Inhabitants, most lamentable to behold. At last *Valentine* and the *Green Knight* arming themselves, came into the City, accompanied with Two Thousand Men, set upon the *Saracens*, and within short time, they behaving themselves so valiantly, they gained from the Enemy Three Hundred Chariots of Victuals: And the Soldan being vexed at this Loss, got between the City and them, thinking to have hinder'd their Entrance, but King *Pepin* seeing that, ran upon the Soldan so violently, that he bear him to the Earth, and with his Sword struck *Archillon* (a valiant Comander) out of his Saddle; and *Valentine* hewed down the Soldan's chief Standard. *Moraldus*, one of the chief Captains, was slain by the *Green Knight*, with other Exploits performed on both Sides; but they pressed the Enemy so far, that when they would return they could not, and so was taken Prisoners: And the Soldan order'd a high Gibbet, designing to hang them thereon.

However, the Valour of the hungry Christians, carried off the Victuals, tho' with the Loss of many a Life: The Emperor was exceeding heavy for the Loss of his Son and the *Green Knight*; so likewise was K. *Pepin*, but *Pacolet* soon comforted them, telling them they should soon be at liberty, if it was in the Power of his Art, so taking himself to his Horse, he arrived at the Soldan's Camp, just as *Valentine* and the *Green Knight* were receiving Sentence of Death.

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## C H A P. XXXIII.

*How Pacolet delivered Valentine and the Green Knight out of the Bondage of the Soldan.*

**B**eing all assembled, the Soldan, after hearing the Opinions of his Judges, 'twas concluded the Knights should suffer Death next Morning, this done the Soldan went to Supper in his Pavillion, where being set, *Pacolet* came and saluted him in the Name of *Mahomet*. *Pacolet*, says the Soldan, thou art welcome, how fareth *Ferragus* my Friend? Sir, quoth *Pacolet*, right well: Then *Pacolet* drew him aside, and said, Know Sir, I am sent by *Ferragus*'s fair Wife, who is in Love with you and she desires that you wou'd come with me on my Horse, her Husband being now in *Aquitain*. The Soldan was glad at this News, feasted *Pacolet* very much, and prepared

pared to go with him the next Morning. *Valentine* and the *Green Knight* were right glad they had gotten a sight of *Pacolet*, but durst not shew it; *Pacolet* on the other Hand, the better to carry on his design, exclaimed much against *Valentine* and the *Green Knight*, and seemed wonderous obliging to the Soldan, who ordered the Knights to be hanged the next Morning, and so withdrawing to his Chamber, left them under the conduct of those that desired their Deaths.

In the dead time of the Night, *Pacolet* having charm'd their Wardens who slept so securely, that he brought them past all danger, which done, about the dawning of the Day he came to the Soldan's Tent and awak'd him, which done the Soldan gave Orders, that if any enquired for him to say, He was gone a little Way to sport with *Pacolet*: They mounted the Wodden Horse, which rose up into the Air so swiftly, that in a little time they were at Constantinople in the Emperor's Palace. The Soldan perceiving the Horse to make a stay, asked *Pacolet*, if they were at their Journey's End? Yea, (said he) we are now in *Portugal*, in the Palace of *Ferragus*; enter you into the Hall, and I'll bring the Lady to you presently.

The Soldan stayed in the Hall, impatiently expecting *Pacolet's* Return; while he, in the mean space, inaketh towards the Emperor's Chamber, and told him, that he was just arrived from the Soldan's Host, having set at Liberty both *Valentine* and the *Green Knight*, who were condemn'd to die. Besides, said he, I have brought along with me the Soldan himself;

where-

wherefore you may now be revenged on him in full. The Emperor and King *Pepin* immediately armed themselves, and came into the Hall where the Soldan sat, who perceiving he was betray'd, drew out his Sword, and like a Madman ran up and down the Hall, and defended himself so well that he slew King *Pepin's* Squire; this so enraged the King, that he gave him a Blow which fell'd him to the Earth; being down they bound him: In the Morning *Valentine* and the *Green Knight* returned, and were glad to find the Soldan Prisoner, who was soon hanged on the highest Tower of the Palace, in Sight of the Pagan Host, which very much amazed them, till his Uncle *Bryan* told them how he had been deceived by the Traitor *Pacolet*. The Pagans gathered themselves to Council, and chose *Bryan* their Soldan.

Soon after this *Pacolet* returned into *Aquitain*, to comfort the Ladies *Bellisant* and *Clerimond*, as he had promised; and the next Morning came to his Journey's End: The Empress was exceedingly rejoiced when he told her, that the Emperor was sorry he had used her so ill, (being guiltless), which the trayterous Arch-Priest confessed at his Death; and also he told her, that the Emperor intended to come in Person, when the City was cleared of the Saracens, with his Son *Valentine* and the *Green Knight*: Which very much pleased her, especially, that her Accuser had suffered a shameful Death.

## C H A P. XXXIV.

*How King Tompart came to Aquitain  
to succour Ferragus, and brought with  
him Adrimain the Enchanter, who  
betrays Pacolet.*

Pacolet being arrived at *Aquitain*, at the same Time King *Tompart* came thither to aid *Ferragus* against the Christians, at whose coming *Ferragus* thus salutes him; Great King! by your Assistance I hope to regain my Sister *Clerimond*. *Ferragus*, said the King, doubt nothing; I have brought *Adrimain* the Enchanter, whose Skill shall confound *Pacolet's* Art. Thanks, gentle King; if he can but get *Pacolet* into my Hands, I'll reward him liberally. Says *Adrimain*, Put your Trust in me. Being provided with all Things, he set forwards towards *Aquitain*; being come thither, *Pacolet* knew him, From whence come you, said he, and what is your Errand? Said *Adrimain*, You know that long I served King *Tompart*, yet by Fate I am fallen into a great Mischance, for one in the Court beat me because I would not teach him my Art; upon which I drew out my Knife and kill'd him, whereupon I fled to you for Succour. Fear nothing, says *Pacolet*, you are safe. As they were thus talking, *Clerimond* passed by, *Adrimain* asked what Lady it was? that is, says *Pacolet*, the fair Sister of *Ferragus*, who is shortly

ly to be married to a valiant Knight. Whilst the two Magicians were thus in Conference, comes *Orson*, and desired they would shew some of their Art to divert the Assembly.

Upon which *Adrimain* caused a River to run through the Palace, to the Astonishment of the Beholders ; and *Pacolet* raised a Hart, which run through the River, and after the Hart run Hunters and Hounds, which he made suddenly to vanish. Quoth *Orson*, this is very well performed ; and so the Company broke up.

*Pacolet* led *Adrimain* to his Chamber ; but this proved fatal, for about Midnight he enchanted all within the Castle, and among the rest *Pacolet* himself. Afterwards he got the Wooden-Horse, and going to *Clerimond*, caused her to mount behind him ; so turning the Pin, they suddenly arrived at the Tent of King *Tompart*. Being come, he called the King from his Bed, telling him, he had brought the fair Lady *Clerimond*, whom he had stole from *Aquitain*, and along with her *Pacolet's* Horse. But, says the King, art thou acquainted with this Horse ? Yes, long since, worthy King ; and by Virtue of the Pin, how to govern him. Having made this known to *Tompart*, he thought to make Experience himself ; and taking *Clerimond* behind him, would carry her into his own Country, and there marry her.

*Adrimain* was present all the while, and tells him, that if he fail'd one Jot of the true Use of the Horse, that both he and the Lady were in Danger. Fear not that, quoth *Tompart* ; so turning the Pin, he flew swiftly into the Air,

and

## The HISTORY of

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and was two hundred Miles on his Journey before the Lady awak'd from her enchanted Sleep; who seeing herself deluded, fell into a Swoon, which so affrighted King *Tompart*, that turning the Pin, he set the Lady down by the Side of a Fountain, in order to comfort her: Being come to herself a little, she utter'd these Words; Unhappy I above all Creatures! for I have lost my Joys by cursed Treason. Alas, *Valentine* my Love, cursed be he that separated us! Lady, said *Tompart*, leave off these foolish Words: Is it not better for thee to be my Wife, who am Lord of this Jurisdiction, than to have a beggarly Start-up, that hath neither Land nor Living? And at this he offer'd to kiss her, but she hit him on the Mouth with her Fist.

*Tompart* being enraged at this Usage, caught her up, and set her on the Horse again, thinking to go directly to his own Palace, but turning the Pin the contrary Way, unexpectedly sat her down at a large Town in *India*. *Clerimond* by this time knew the Horse to be *Pacolet*'s, and began to renew her Lamentations; but *Tompart* reprimands her, thinking he had been in his own Country. But this fell out ill for him, for the News being brought to the King of *India*, he caused *Tompart* to be brought before him, and order'd his Head to be cut off forthwith, in Revenge for the Death of his Brother, whom *Tompart* formerly had slain. After this, the Lady was led to the King's Palace, and entertain'd with all Manner of Splendor and Magnificence: Where we leave her awhile, and return to *Pacolet*, and look back to *Aquitain*, and see the La-

G

mentations

inventions made for the Loss of the Lady Clerimond.

When *Pacolet* found he was betrayed by *Adrimain*, and that the Lady *Clerimond* and his Horse were both gone, he fell into such a Passion, insomuch, as had not *Orson* come in, he would have killed himself; but at length coming to himself, he resolves to be revenged on the Traitor *Adrimain*: So taking the Habit of a fair Maid, took his Way to the Host of *Ferragus*. Being come amongst the Army, many Pagans pray'd for her Love, but he excused himself, saying, She was engaged to the Enchanter *Adrimain*; and so they let her pass. At last *Pacolet* got to the Tent where *Adrimain* was; at which he stood amazed, and was deeply in Love.

*Pacolet* enquired what was become of King *Tompart*, when *Adrimain* told him, he was gone into his own Country, and carried along with him the Lady *Clerimond*, upon a Horse of Wood. *Pacolet*, hearing this, was vex'd to the Heart.

By this Time *Adrimain* came to his Tent; and putting off his Cloaths, goes to Bed, where *Pacolet* so enchanted him, that he fell into a deep Sleep; and as he had dealt with him, so he did to all round about him. Then he put off his Woman's Attire, and clad himself in *Adrimain's* richest Cloaths, and took his Sword and cut off his Head. From thence he took his Way towards the Tent of *Ferragus*, where he made him leap out of Bed, and tying him to his Girdle, he led him to the Entrance of the City of *Aquitain*.

When *Pacolet* entered the Gates, the Duke asked what was become of *Clerimond*? Have but a little Patience, says *Pacolet*, and I'll relate to you the whole Matter: I am fully revenged, said he, on *Adrimain*, for here I have brought his Head; and here is *Ferragus* himself; I have also enchanted the whole Host of *Ferragus* into a deep Sleep, therefore, if ever you mean to have resistless Victory, go now.

After the greatest Part of the Saracen's Army was destroyed, and the Town relieved, the Duke commanded *Ferragus* to be brought before him, and offered if he would renounce *Paganism*, he should be spared. No, said *Ferragus*, I had rather suffer a Thousand Deaths. So he was suddenly beheaded. Soon after his Death, *Orson* took Leave of the Duke, and went to *Constantinople*, which was then closely besieged by the Saracens; but before his Departure, the Duke said he would accompany him, and the Empress his Mother: so taking some small Time to set Things in Readiness, they betook themselves to their Journey. But by the Way the Empress lamented the hard Usage of her Lord: *Orson*, pitying her, said, Mother, leave off your Tears, and only joy that you are falsely accused: I fear most our Entrance into the City. And now they began to approach near their Journey's End, when *Pacolet* found Means to convey them into the City, which was at that time in great Distress for want of Provisions. *Valentine*, with the *Green Knight*, accompanied with a worthy Band of Soldiers, issued out of the City, and set upon two Hundred Waggon, loaden with Provisions. Having got their

Booty, they were returning to the City, but was begirt with the *Pagans* Army; and after a noble Defence, were both made Prisoners, and led before the Soldan, who adjug'd them to Death. But in the mean time, *Pacolet* came and stood before the Judgment-Seat, and pretended himself a Messenger from the King of *Argiers*, come to bring him an Account, that he was coming with a mighty Army to his Assistance, and to desire him, if he had any Christian Prisoners, he would send them to him: By which Means he put a Stop to the Sentence for that time, and *Valentine* and the *Green Knight* were carried back to Prison.

In the dead-time of the Night, *Pacolet* went and unbound them, and gave them a distinct Account of all the Proceedings at *Aquitain*. When they came together, (by *Pacolet's* Advice) they resolved to fall upon the Enemy. Whilst they were in these Consultations, the Duke of *Aquitain* put the Army in Order of Battle, whilst those from the City prepared to do the like on their Part.

Early the next Morning the Battle was join'd, when, thro' the Courage of their Leaders, they gain'd an entire Victory, and put most of the *Saracens* to the Sword. When the Battle was ended, the Emperor with Tears imbraced *Bellifant*, asking a thousand Pardons for all the Hardships she underwent upon his Account. Great was the Joy on all Sides; and when all those Rejoicings were over, *Valentine* asked after fair *Clerimond*, who was told by his Mether, that she was stolen from *Aquitain*, by the Enchanter *Adrimain*, and given to King *Tompson*. *Valentine*, hearing this, look'd

look'd strangely upon Pacolet ; but Pacolet intreated him to be patient, for the same Enchanter hath stolen away his Horse, but I am reveng'd on him, by cutting off his Head. Valentine understanding these Misfortunes, and that every one was innocent, grew into bitter Passions for his Loss.

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### C H A P. XXXV.

*How King Pepin departed from Greece ;  
and how Orson accompanied him. How  
Garnier conveyed a Knife into the King's  
Bed, and accused Orson of Treason ;  
and how Orson claimed Combat against  
him, which was granted. How Va-  
lentine, in seeking Clerimond, ar-  
rived at Antioch; where he slew a  
Dragon, and caused the King and all  
his Land to be baptised ; and how the  
King was put to Death by Brandiffer.*

**T**Hese Wars thus ended, King Pepin took Leave of the Emperor, and return'd into France : Orson would needs attend him ; the King was content, promising, in case his Son Charles should decease before him, he would make him King of France. So they went on their Way towards Paris.

But Valentine could not rest, for he had lost his Love; wherefore he consulted Pacol, what was best to be done; whereupon they agreed to go in Search of her, and taking Ship, they left that Country. Now we will leave them, and speak of King Pepin and Orson, who by this time arrived at Paris, and was honourably received, but above all the valiant Orson was highly esteemed. This Greatness of Orson so fretted Haufry and Henry, that they plotted how to take away his Life: And thus they consulted Garnier and Florent, promising them, if they would murder the King, that they would take Possession of the Realm, and raise them to great Honour; moreover, such a Deed being done, it will surely be laid to Orson's Charge, for he only hath the Guard of the King's Person. Garnier, upon these promises, consented, and told Haufry and Henry he would that Night put it in Execution. So, after Supper, he got a Knife, and secretly entered the King's Chamber, and hid himself behind the Hangings; and being come to the Bed-side, ready to lift up his Arm to give the fatal Stroke, he thought the King was awake, so only left the Knife in the Bed, and softly conveyed himself from thence. And the next Day, the King being at Dinner, when Garnier saw his time, he came before him, saying; Worthy King, I come to open to you a Treason which lately I chanc'd to hear, and to the End you may take Care of your Person.

Garnier desired that Orson might be seiz'd first, for he was the Principal Traitor, the Number are four: Orson was the Man should kill you in your

your Bed with a Knife, which is hid in your Bed ; and if your Majesty pleases to go and see, you will find it.

The King, hearing these Words, said to *Orson*, False and disloyal Man, can such a Thought enter into thy Breast, as to take away my Life ? quoth *Orson*, Be not so lightly carried away to believe this Accusation, for I protest, I am clear of any such Thought. But however, the King went himself into the Chamber, with two others, where they found the Knife. With that a valiant Knight, named *Simon*, came to *Orson*, and said, Sir, fly and save your Life, for the King has found the Knife in his Bed. *Orson* said, I fear nothing, for I am innocent. The King enter'd the Hall, and assembling his Peers, proceeded to Judgment. *Orson* required only the Custom of the Country, which is to crave a Combat with his Enemy. At last, it was adjug'd, that *Orson*'s Demand was reasonable. Whereupon it was resolved, that *Garnier* and *Florent* should accept *Orson*'s Challenge ; so a Month was assigned for the Combat.

The time being come, *Orson*, attended by the Nobles and His Friends, enter'd the Field ; and soon after him his Adversaries, *Garnier* and *Florent* : *Orson* couched his Spear, and putting Spurs to his Horse, ran upon them with Fury, and lent *Garnier* such a Stroke, that he run through both Shield and Armour : *Florent*, on the other Side, gave *Orson* a Blow, that he thought he had struck against a Tower. False and accursed Traitor, (quoth *Orson*) thou hast wrongfully accused me ; ere this Day pass I shall shew thee where Loyalty doth

dorh rest: And with these Words, he with his  
Sword smote *Garnier* out of his Saddle, and with-  
al pull'd off his Helm, and had cut off his Head,



and then went against *Florent*, and caught him in his Arms, threw him on the Ground, and said, Traytor, confess the Treason, or I'll send thee instantly after thy false Brother: Whereupon *Haufry* said, Nephew, confess the Fact, and we will procure thy Pardon of the King. Lord, said *Garnier*, I did put the Knife into the King's Bed. In speaking these Words, *Haufry* drew out his Sword, and run him through; and then turning to *Orson*, said, Cousin, I am glad you have proved yourself innocent: And so preventing *Garnier* from discovering his Treasons.

*Orson*

Orson being Innocent, much rejoye'd K. Pepin, and the whole Court, Haufry and Henry spoke well of him, but in their Hearts imagin'd mischief which after came to light, and they had their desert, where we leave them, and return to Valentine, who with Pacolet, was travelling in search of the fair Clerimond, at length arrived at Antioch, where taking up their Lodging in an Inn; the Host of which went to the King and told him that there were some Christians at his House, that had entered the Land without paying Tribute; presently the King sent for Valentine, and said, Christian, I let thee understand, that there is a dreadful Dragon, the which thou must Fight, or else suffer Death. Quoth Valentine, if you will but grant me one request, which is, that if I slay this Dragon, you will change your Religion, and become a Christian, to which the King agreed. Then Valentine caused a Shield to be made, with Iron Spikes fastned on it, so mounting his Horse, issued out of the City. Being gone, every one got into their Windows to see the Fight.

Now by this time is Valentine within sight of the Dragon, who seeing one come towards her, cast out of her Mouth Smoak like Fire; he descended from his Horse, thinking to have smitten her, but she lifted up her Paw to smite Valentine who subtilly watching his Opportunity, lifted up his Pole - Ax and smote of one of her Wings, at which feeling the Pain, she gave so great a roar, that echoed through the adjacent Vallies. The Battle was most violent between them, but at last Valentine still pursues his blows, and

and ran his Ax so far in her Throat, that she fell down Dead, and afterwards he cut off her Head,



having so done, he return'd to the City, where he was joyfully received by the People, but particularly by the King and his Wife *Rosamond*, whom he soon after converted to the Christian Religion, to the great displeasure of the Giant *Brandiffer*, who was the Queen's Father, and who thereupon came against *Antioch*, with an Army of an hundred thousand Pagans, and besieged the City, at last obtained it, and took the King Prisoner and suddenly put him to Death, and Crown'd himself King of *Antioch*,

This done he returned to his Realm, but as he was on the Seas, met with a Tempest, was forced

forced into *Greece*, into a City called *Cretophe*, where the Emperor and the *Green Knight*, with some other Company, rid forth to sport themselves, and fell into the Hands of *Brandifer's* Soldiers, who took them Prisoners. The Men of *Cretophe* sent Letters to the Empress *Bellifant* of what had happen'd, who presently sent for all her Captains and Warlike Men, under the Command of *Orson*, to the Relief of her Husband the Emperor. But *Brandifer* had Scouts abroad to give Notice of all that happen'd, and fearing the Force of the *Greeks*, and their Prisoners Loss, they stole to the Sea-side, so took Shipping, and in a short time arrived in his own Dominions; where he caused the Emperor and the *Green Knight* to be confined in a Cave among some other Christians, which had been there along time. Where we'll leave them, and shall shew you somewhat of the Lady *Clerimond*, who still remains in *India*.

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**C H A P. XXXVI.**

*How Clerimond feigns herself Mad, to avoid a Marriage with the King of India: How Valentine defies Brandiffer, and is sent by King Lucar, against K. Pepin.*

**Y**OU heard already of *K. Trompart's* Death, and *Clerimond's* Time expired, she was now put to her Shifts, to save her Maiden-head, from the *Indian King*: To which purpose she feign'd

feign'd herself Mad, and she acted the Matter so well, that all her Attendance took her really to be so, for none would come near her. The King lamented her exceedingly, and many ways were used to recover her, but all in vain, so we leave her in her Chamber and return to *Valentine*, who with *Pacolet*, was come into K. *Tompart's* Dominions, to enquire after his beloved *Clerimond*. When *Valentine* came to the chief City, he made diligent enquiry what was become of *Tompart* and the Lady *Clerimond*; but of this he could get no other Account, than that he was Slain by the King of India, but for the Lady, they heard no Tydings of.

This Tale was very afflicting to *Valentine*, but hearing that K. *Lucar* was preparing to invade the King of India's Dominions, he determines to put himself into his Service, which K. *Lucar* accepted, upon Condition, he would go to the King of India, and in his Name bid him Desiance. before his departure *Rosamond*, who formerly loved *Valentine*, sent for him to her Chamber, and told him she was Married to K. *Lucar*, by the command of *Brandiffer* her Father. Says she, you are going to the King of India, with Desiance, and you have no way to preserve your Life but by carrying a Message from me. Now in taking of his Love he hath sent me a Ring, which hitherto I have kept, and not shew'd to any save your self, which I shall give you, and tell him, that when *Lucar* bringeth his Host, I will come with him; and then if their be any Valour in him, he may carry me whether he pleases.

*Valentine*

Valentine thanking the Lady for her Instructions, assured her he would effectually deliver his Message. So he took his Way to the City; and when he was near the Palace, he went to the King: As he came into the great Hall, the King saluted him with a wrinkled Brow, and asked him if he was a Messenger from King *Lucar*. Sir, said Valentine, I am; and come to offer you Defiance; but withal he told him, he brought him Tydings from the fair-Lady *Rosamond*: And so delivered the Message Word for Word, according as she had directed; which so pleased the Indian King, that instead of putting him to Death, as he had done the former Messengers, he caused him to be nobly treated, and then sent him back with Letters in Answer to King *Lucar's* Defiance.

After Valentine had deliver'd the Indian Knight's Letters to *Lucar*. King *Brandiffer* understanding what Answer he had sent, swore by all the Gods, that he would never return without Victory. The next Morning, with an Army of two hundred thousand *Saracens*, they began their March, and in a few Days came before the chief City of the Indian King, himself getting up into a high Tower, to spy their rich Pavillions. Then he called unto him a certain Herald, to know whose Tents they were, and being told, that one of them was *Rosamond's*, he caused his Army to issue out of the City upon his Enemies so suddenly, that before they were in Readiness to oppose him, he rode towards the Lady's Pavillion, where *Rosamond* seeing him, gave the rest of her Company the Slip, and ran violently into his Arms; but as they were making their Escape,

*Valentine*, by the Assistance of *Pacolet*, soon regain'd her, and carried her to King *Lucar*. *Valentine* had great Praise for bringing back the Lady, and she outwardly shewed him a fair Countenance, 'till she could find a fit Opportunity to do him a Mischief. Some time afterwards she rode forth, pretending to take the Air, of which she gave the King of *India* Notice; hereupon he issued out of the Postern, and took her Horse by the Head, and led her into the City, to the great Grief of King *Lucar* her Husband.

Soon after Tydings was brought to *Brandiffer*, that King *Pepin* and the Emperor of *Greece* was enter'd his Land, and were now upon the Siege of *Angory*. *Brandiffer*, amazed hereat, went to *Lucar*, and said, It was now high time for him to look after his own Dominions; and therefore advised him to send to the *Indian* King, to demand his Wife, and he would forget the Death of his Father, and raise the Siege. To which the *Indian* reply'd, That if he wanted a Wife, he must go seek another. Upon this Message, *Brandiffer* resolves to stay with *Lucar*, and send *Valentine* and *Murgalant* to raise the siege which King *Pepin* had laid against *Angory*.

*Valentine*, with his Army, being come within Sight of the City, thought it adviseable to send Intelligence thither. *Pacolet* standing by, offered to carry the Message. Go thy Way, quoth *Murgalant*. So *Pacolet* departed, and went directly to King *Pepin's* Camp, and desired to speak with *Orson*, to whom he imparts the whole Adventure.

After

## Valentine and Orson. 111

After this, says *Pacolet*, if you will be governed by me, I will put the *Saracen's* whole Army into your Power, and at the same time take Care of *Valentine*, whose Life is dearer to me than my own. Do as thou hast said, says *Orson*, and thou wilt win immortal Praise. When *Pacolet* had concerted every thing proper for the Enterprize, he so order'd it, that *Valentine* should not stir out of his Tent. In the dead-time of the Night he cast the whole Army into a strong Sleep, so that King *Pepin*, with sixty thousand Men, enter'd the Host, set Fire to the Tents, and killed all that resisted. *Murgalant* was slain with a Dart, as he was making his Escape. *Valentine* finding in the Morning what was done, said to *Pacolet*, thou hast made me break my Promise with *Brandiffer*, for which I shall surely die. Soon after this the *Christians* took the City, putting the *Saracens* to the Sword. In it was found great Riches, which was divided among the Soldiers.

## C H A P. XXXVII.

*How Valentine returns to India; and how he brings with him the dead Body of King Murgalant. How he bears Tydings of his Father. How Pacolet frees the Indian King; and how Lucar causeth a great Number of Indians to be drawn to Death at Horses Tails.*

**K**ing Pepin having taken the City of *Angory*, Valentine caused the dead Body of *Murgalant* to be covered with black, returns to *Lucar*, to carry him the sorrowful News of the Loss of the whole Army, with the Manner how it happened, which when *Brandiffer* heard, he accused *Valentine* with Treachery, at which *Lucar* interposing, prevented a Quarrel.

The *Indian King* glad at this News, judg'd it the fittest Time to try the Fortune of a Battle, which contrary to his expectation, he lost, and was taken Prisoner by *Valentine*. After the Fight was done, and the *Indians* defeated, *Lucar* ordered the *Indian King* should be brought before him, telling him, that now he would be revenged on him for the Death of his Brother K. *Tompart*. *Lucar* had no sooner ended his rough Speech, but a Messenger came to *Brandiffer*, to inform him, that King *Pepin*, had taken the City of *Angory*, and put the Inhabitants thereof to the Sword. Well, says *Brandiffer*,

*since*

since it is so, let us dispatch the *Indian King*, and then I hope shortly to set our Country free: I have there in a strong Castle, the Emperor of *Greece* and the *Green Knight*, who at my coming shall suffer Death. When *Valentine* heard that his Father was in *Brandiffer's* Custody, it grieved him very much, that he had done him so great Service, and calling to *Pacolet*, asked him what was best to be done. Sir, says *Pacolet*, I will deliver the *Indian King* from Prison, and put *Brandiffer* into his Hands, so may K. *Pepin* hold *Angory* still, which the Night following he did. The King of the *Indies* being thus at his Liberty, carried *Brandiffer* with him into his own Country, who was met by *Rosamond*, who was frightn'd at the Sight of her Father: Is there Peace says she, No, no, quoth the King, *Mahomet* delivered him into my Hands, and freed me from Death, now the Charm being at an End, *Brandiffer* awakes, began to say, What Devil brought me hither: Nay, says the other 'twas no Devil, 'twas *Mahomet* that brought you, for the sake of Peace, and I mean to keep you. In the Morning, when *Lucar* found the Prisoner was escaped and taken *Brandiffer* with him, he lost his Patience, and caused the Guards to be drawn along the Streets at Horses Tails, and afterwards hang'd, hereupon *Valentine* and *Pacolet* leaves the Pagans, and proceeded in their Search after the Lady *Clerimond*.

You have heard how K. *Pepin* took *Angory*; we speak next of the Treason of *Haufry* and *Henry*, who in the Absence of their Father in the

Holy Land, with *Orson*, contrived a Plot to deliver them into the Hands of the *Pagans*. Whilst this unnatural Conspiracy was hatching, the *Caliph of Bendas* being come to the Host of *Brandiffer*, *Lucar* treated a Truce for a Month, between them and the King of the *Indies*. Whilst Things were in this Posture, comes *Haufry* to *Brandiffer*, offering to betray to him his Father and the twelve Peers of *Fyance*, if so be he wou'd give him his Daughter to Wife; but *Brandiffer*, who was a *Pagan*, thought the Proposal so Villanous, that dissembling the Matter, sent him with a Letter to his Daughter *Galazy*, in which he gave her an Account of his Treachery, and then ordered her to commit him to the same Castle with the Emperor and the *Green Knight*: So we will leave them in Prison, and return to *Valentine* and *Pacolet*.

## C H A P. XXXVIII.

*How Pacolet raised the Devil, to consult with him, upon taking of a Castle. How Brandiffer imprison'd the twelve Peers of France, and Ransoms Lucar from Valentine.*

**A**fter many Days Travel, *Valentine* and *Pacolet* arrived at the enchanted Castle kept by *Galazy*, *Brandiffer's* Daughter, and being informed by a Devil, that *Pacolet* had raised, that

it

it was impregnable ; they return'd to *Angory*, where they were informed, that K. *Pepin*, and the twelve Peers of *France* were gone a Pilgrimage to *Jerusalem*. Not long after their Departure, but *Brandiffer* together with *Lucar* and the King of the *Indies*, went in search of King *Pepin*, and finding him with his Peers at *Jerusalem*, by the Assistance of the King of *Jury*, sejzed them all. Wretched was the Condition of these worthy Men, they were all doom'd to a miserab'e Dungeon, except K. *Pepin*, who being of a small Stature, the *Indian King* desired him for his Dwarf.

The *Indian King* being return'd to his own Court, was extreamly delighted in the Conversation of his Dwarf, and us'd to imply him upon several Occasions, and among the rest, sent him with a Plate of Meat, from his own Table, to the Lady *Clerimond*. The King seeing so beautiful a Lady in so wretched a State, condoled her Misfortunes, and by their Conversation together, they came to discover one another ; But we drop this Matter for the present and return to *Brandiffer* who having the twelve Peers in Prison, thought now was the fittest Time to attempt the Subversion of that Country ; however, considering of what advantage the Reduction of the City of *Angory* was to him, having instructed his Daughter in all that was necessary, for the Safety of the Prisoners, he departed, to put himself at the Head of his Army.

*Valentine* who kept the City for King *Pezin*, seeing the sudden Approach of his Army, was under great Consternation, but calling to *Paolet*, who

who bid him fear nothing, for he would soon find better News, and so departed to the Host of K. *Lucar*, who by Enchantment, he brought back with him to *Angory*, and made a present of him to *Valentine*. Some Hours after *Lucar* waked, and *Pacoret* asking him a merry question he struck a Knife into his Heart, so deep, that he immediately died, for which unlucky Accident *Valentine* was sore troubled. Soon after this, *Brandiffer* mist *Lucar*, and hearing that he was Prisoner in *Angory*, sent Messengers to *Valentine*, to offer him any Friso er in exchange for *Lucar*; it was agreed, that K. *Pepin* should be sent in exchange, which Agreement was punctually performed.

## C H A P. XXXIX.

*How Mylon Daugler was taken for the King of France, was delivered out of Prison in lieu of King Lucar. How Valentine beats the Saracens in a pitch Battle; How King Pepin is exchanged for the King of the India's Admiral, and hastens to France to the Succour of his Wife.*

**B**RANDIFFER knowing *Valentine's* Mind, sent a Messenger forthwith to his Daughter *Galaxy* who kept the Castle, willing her to deliver the King

King of France to them. She in Obedience to her Father's command, calls the Jaylor, and bids him bring forth the King of France; Upon which he goes to the supposed Knight, and tells him, that he is come to set him at Liberty. D. Mylon thought that he meant to put him to Death, replies, that he was ready to lay down his Life for his Religion. The Jaylor said, Sir, 'tis no such Thing, for you are to be exchanged for a Pagan King. Which when Henry heard, he repented his not having personated the King. Duke Mylon, after having comforted the Emperor of Greece and Orson, took his leave of the Lady, and went along with the Messenger. When they came before Brandiffer, he said, King, I sent for you, in Order to have you exchanged for my Son Lucar, who is now Valentine's Prisoner. The Duke said, Sir, if he is not delivered according to your desire, I shall put my self again into your Hands; so the Duke departed to Angory; at his coming he embraced Valentine, and told him what had happen'd to himself and King Pepin, when Valentine heard he applauded his Loyalty, and caused King Lucar to be dismissed, after he had bid him beware falling into his Hands again, lest he should revenge himself on him for Pacole's Death. Valentine having gather'd Strength by the Duke's Aid, marched against the Enemy with an Army of 50 thousand Men, began a sharp and Bloody Fight, in which both Duke Mylon and himself, behav'd themselves right valiantly, who was so desirous of Honour, that he fought his Passage almost to Brandiffer's Standard, where his Horse was killed

led by an *Indian Admiral*, and himself would have Perished, had not Duke *Myllon* reliev'd him with a fresh Horse, on which he retired from the Field, and after a short Stay return'd, and took the *Admiral Prisoner*, which *Brandiffer* and *Lucar* seeing, and finding they had the Worst, resolved to Embark for their own Dominions: So retiring disorderly, the Christians pursued, and but one Hundred escaped alive, so the Christians returned from the pursuit, laden with Plunder. After they had Buried the Dead, *Valentine* caused the Prisoners to be brought before him, amongst them was an *Indian Admiral*. Duke *Myllon* demanded of what Country he belong'd to, I am said he, an *Indian Admiral*. D. *Myllon* turn'd to *Valentine*, and said, since we taken him we will exchange him for K. *Pepin*: So they enquired of him, whether he did not know a Christian of low Stature, in his Master's Court, to which he answered he did, then *Valentine* told him, that if his Master would release him, they would give him his Liberty. The Admiral was very glad at this, and so presently Writ to his Master. The King willingly agreed to this Proposal, not knowing his Dwarf was the great K. *Pepin*, so calling him, said, you must go to be exchang'd for my *Admiral*, now Prisoner amongst the Christians. King *Pepin* returned him Thanks, so going to *Clerimond* he said, that *Valentine* would soon come and release her: So he departed towards *Angory*, and was received with great Joy by the *French*, where he told *Valentine*, the good News of *Clerimond*'s being alive, and was in *India*. His Speech being ended

## Valentine and Orson.

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ended, they delivered the Admiral to the Messengers, and Valentine retired to his Closet to transcribe the Words, which were in Pacole's Tables, which did him great Service, in regard to the Safety of his Life, as will be shewn hereafter: Whilst K. Pepin was at Angory, News was brought him, that Arthur King of Britain had invaded France, which made him resolve to go forthwith to suppress the Usurper.

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## C H A P. XL.

*How Valentine under the Shape of a Physician, goes to India to speak with Clerimond, and rid away with her. How K. of Britain was delivered to K. Pepin. How the Emperor, Orson, and the Green Knight, went to the Assistance of Valentine, besieged in Angory. How Valentine ignorantly kills his Father, and afterwards with Orson returns into Greece.*

NEWS being brought to Valentine of Clerimond, resolved to take Shipping with the Indian Merchant, attended only by his Squire, and after a long Voyage arrived in that King's Dominions, and there put himself in the Habit of a Physician, who undertook to cure any Distemper, especially Madness. At last the Tidings of his Skill came to the King's Ear, and thinking

thinking he might recover *Clerimond*, sent for him, and being at Dinner, made him sit down, he thus said, Sir, I have a Beautiful Lady in my Palace, whom I would fain make my Queen; but her being possessed with Lunacy, obstructs it, now if you can restore her to her lost Reason, I will give whatever you ask. *Valentine* replied, great King, I doubt not effecting it, so your Majesty grant my being alone with her all Night, to observe the Nature of her Frenzy, to which the King agreed. Now in the middle of the Night, *Valentine* espying *Pacolet's* Horse, in a secret Place in the Chamber, and well knowing the Use of him, he with *Clerimond*, and his Squire, mounted immediately, and rode thro' the Air, to *Angory*, where they were joyfully received, and the Marriage Rites performed. Next Morning the *Indian* King missing the Lady, he caus'd search to be made thro' all his Dominions, but to no Purpose.

These affairs standing thus, speak we next of King *Pepin*, who is now upon his Journey to *France*, to assist his Wife against the King of *Britain*, who pressed her so very hard, she was forc'd to fly for Succour, with her Son *Charles* to *Lyons*, where by the Assistance of the Duke of *Anjou*, she made a noble Stand, till King *Pepin* arrived with a great Army to her Relief, upon whose Arrival the King of *Britain* was taken by his own Party, and brought to King *Pepin*, who ordered his Head to be cut off. *Valentine* being sensible that the Castle wherein his Father the Emperor was confined, was no ways to be taken but by Treachery, disguises himself

himself like a Merchant, and in twelve Ships, manned with two thousand Men, and laded with all Sorts of precious Commodities, landed at the Enchanted Castle, and going directly to the Gate, he met the Porter, telling him he was a Merchant bound to Spain, with Ships laden with Goods of great value, and that he was come according to the Custom of the Country to pay Tribute. The Porter said, I will go to my Lady first.

The Lady when she heard the Matter; ordered the Senescal to go and receive the Tribute, but withal to take a Band of Soldiers with him, whereupon Valentine's Men set upon them, and slew them; afterwards he ordered fifty of his Company, to put on the Saracens Gowns over their Armour, and load themselves with Silk, and post to the Castle; which when the Porter saw, he let down the Draw-bridge, whereupon Valentine seized and carried him to the Ships, where shewing him the Dead Bodies, he told him, he would instantly make him like them, unless he gave him Entrance into the Castle. The Porter being terrify'd by his Menaces, shew'd him a private Pottern, at which he entered, and going to the Chamber of fair Galizy, who being frighted at his Appearance, and the Shouts of his Companions, earnestly entreated him to spare her Life and Virginity.

After the Pagans were all slain, Valentine came to the Dungeon, and set the Emperor, Orson, and all the other Christians at Liberty, who made great Rejoycing, in which Time Orson fell in Love with Galizy, and after the Death of

*Fezon*, married her, and by her had a Son, call'd *Oſayr*, who was afterwards Emperor of *Constantinople*.

At length a Council was called, wherein 'twas concluded, that *Orfon* and the *Green Knight* should remain there, whilst *Valentine* and the rest addressed themselves to *Angory*, except *Hauſry* and *Henry*, who return'd to *France*, where being arrived, they plotted together, how to destroy their Father, and their little Brother *Charles*, and soon after poisoned the King, and Queen *Eerha*, but little *Charles* happening under the keeping of *Myllon Daugler*, so that their Treason had no Effect on him.

Now after this D. *Myllon*, by *Hauſry* and *Henry* was Imprison'd, but the Child was protected by a Kt. where we will leave him and return to D. *Myllon*, whose Lady sent Letters to *Valentine*, of what had happen'd; who when he heard was Sorry, but vow'd to release D. *Myllon*, and be reveng'd on the two Traitors, and next Morning mounting *Pacolet's* Horse, he set forward towards *France*, where being come, he accordingly free'd the D. and soon after convey'd him to *Angory*, in whose Absence *Brandiffer* with his Host, had planted their Siege. The Emperor hearing that *Angory* was besieged, he with *Orfon*, the *Green Kt.* and 1000 Men, took Shiping; but in their Passage was set upon by a Fleet of Saracens, on which a Bloody Battle ensued, but the Christians overthrew them, and by the Advice of the Emperor they put on the Arms of the dead Saracens, but this proved fatal as you shall hear. After a Month's Siege

*Valentine*

Valentine resolved on a Battle, in the heat of which, News came that a Fleet of Saracens was enter'd the Haven. Upon which Valentine gave Orders to strengthen the Passages. By this time the Emperor had landed his Men, whom Valentine seeing armed like Saracens, taking his Father to be their Leader, he with great Force ran against him, and thrust his Spear thro' his Body, and when he was told he had slain his Father, he fell in a Swoon from his Horse, but coming to himself again, alas! Said he, what have I done! But by the help of D. Myllon and Orson he was remounted, and like a Man careless of Life, rush't into the thickest of the Battle, so that all that was before him Perished, and at last meeting with Brandiffer, he with one blow clove his Head, which King Beaumont his Brother seeing, quitted the Field, and the Christians pursuing, slew many thousands, but Night drawing on, they return'd into the City: Next Morning in Burying the Dead, there was great Lamentation made for the Emperor of Greece, who was royally Interred in the City of Augory. The Pagans being put to flight, and the Battle ended, Valentine and Orson intended to go for Greece, but before their departure they Crown'd the Green Knight King of Augory, then taking their leave, they set Sail for Constantinople, where being arrived, they were received with the utmost Kindness by the good Lady Bellifant, who was extreamly rejoyned to see the two valiant Princes her Sons, till the unwelcome News of the Death of the Emperor

peror her Husband, which turn'd her Joy into Tears.

After the Empressess mourning was over, and matters settled, it was agreed, that both the Brothers should jointly govern the Empire, but *Valentine* continued not long in that State, for he resolved on a Pilgrimage to the holy Sepulchre, so calling his Wife *Clerimond*, took



leave of her, desiring to be recommended to his Mother and Brother *Orson*, he left his beloved Confort in Tears.

## C H A P. XLI.

How Valentine took leave of Clerimond, before his Pilgrimage. How K. Hugon demanded Clerimond to Wife, and betray'd Orson and the Green Kt. How Clerimond discovered Hugon's Treason; and Orson and the Green Kt. was set at Liberty.

V alentine having comforted his Wife the best he could, desired her to give him her Wedding Ring, which he divided between them, My Love, said he, keep your half, and believe nothing of me, till you see the other Part of it: At which he embrac'd and so departed, and took his Aboard in a Wood, where he remained till he was almost worn out of Remembrance; but after he had been there seven Years, he returned to Constantinople, tho' unknown to any, by reason of his Pilgrims Habit, in which he went begging about the City, and at last came to his Brother's Palace about Supper-time, and those that waited would have beat him away, had not Orson forbid them, saying, I love all Strangers for my Brother Valentine's Sake; so he continued there some time. In these Days there was a King of Hungary named Hugon, who heard Valentine was dead, made Love to the Lady Clerimond; but she rejected all his Proffers; which Hugon perceiving, pretends

that he was determin'd on a Journey to the holy Sepulchre, and at the same time requested *Orson* to accompany him ; to which he consented, but said, let us first go to *Angory*, and take the *Green Knight* along with us. This being concluded, they departed towards *Angory*, where they found him ready to receive them ; and after a short Stay, he went with them to *Jerusalem*, (where *Hugon* betray'd 'em both into the Hands of the K. *Jury*, who caused them both to be imprison'd) and soon after he wrote a Letter to *Clerimond*, (in the Name of *Orson*) intimating that *Valentine* was dead, and that she could not dispose of herself better than by marrying *Hugon*. With this Letter one *Galaran* was sent to *Constantinople*, who was followed by *Hugon*. Being come, they luckily found Means to deliver it to *Clerimond*, which when she saw, grew exceeding sorrowful ; and at the very Instant, as she was reading it, *Valentine* came in a Pilgrims Habit, and told her *Valentine* was living. *Hugon* being present, and fearing his Plot would come to light, immedately took Horse and rode away : Where we will leave him, and say something of the two Prisoners.

King *Jury*, (as has been said) having the two Knights in Custody, sent for them, and solemnly, swore, that unless they would deliver to him the City of *Angory*, he would put them to Death. Now they were forced to yield to his Command, and accordingly he set them free, and they returned to *Constantinople*, but they vowed to be revenged on *Hugon*, which accordingly came to pass ; for soon after he was slain in single Combat by

by the *Green Knight*, by which Means his Treason came to be more manifest, and render'd *Orson* the Empire.

## C H A P. XLII.

*How Valentine dies at Constantinople,  
and Orson turns Hermit.*

**S**oon after *Valentine's* Return to *Constantinople*, he fell dangerously sick, and being made sensible by a Vision, he should expire in a few Hours, he made Signs for Pen, Ink and Paper, and wrote, *That 'twas he was the Pilgrim that discover'd Hugon's Treason*; and after hiving put the half Ring into the Paper, and clos'd it up, he calmly laid him down, and gave up the Ghost.

When *Orson* saw that he was dead, he attempted to take the Paper, which he still held in his Hand, but the Hand would not open, 'till *Clerimond* came, and then it open'd of its own accord. When she had look'd into the Letter, and found there the half Ring, says she, Now for certain we have heard News of *Valentine*. Upon the reading the Letter, great Lamentations were made, but especially by *Clerimond*: Alas! says she, I have lost all my Joy, in my dearest Lord; and to aggravate my Misery, that he should die so near me, and I be unsensible of it. Great Preparations were made for his Interrment, which was perform'd with great Magnificence at *Constantinople*; where *Clerimond* remain'd a mournful Widow to the End of her Life.

*Orson,*

Orson, after his Death, grew extreamly pen-sive, and betook himself to the Woods and Groves, living only upon Roots and Herbs. Some time after he had a glorious Vision, upon which he went to the *Green Knight*, and told him, *This World was nothing but Uncertainty*; and that, for that Reason, he was resolved to retire and leave it. My Estate and Children I commit to your Conduct; I beseech you take Care of them, for the Sake of your Friend; upon which, observing the *Green Knight* began to weep, Weep not, (says he) but rather pray for me, as I shall do for you, that you may faithfully accomplish your Trust: And having thus spoke, he took his Leave, and retir'd to the Woods; where he continued to the End of his Days.

F I N I S.



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good boy  
Dr. McCoy